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OPINION METER

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INSIDE



Disaster Relief

Sister companies IP&E and IT&E team up to provide relief to disaster stricken Japan.

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Local Awardees

Bank of Guam nominees are awarded Small Business Awards for 2011.

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War Casualties

Two Western photojournalists are killed in the besieged Libyan city of Misrata.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELATIVES, PERMANENT RESIDENTS

'CNMI-only resident status'

» Kilili's bill now under committee review

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan introduced on April 8 a bill that will allow four specific groups of individuals—including immediate relatives of U.S. citizens as of May 8, 2008, and notwithstanding the age of the U.S. citizen—to be able to lawfully remain in the CNMI even after the so-called umbrella permits expire on Nov. 28, 2011.

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Shell follows Mobil's gas price hike

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

As anticipated, Shell Marianas increased its gas prices yesterday, mirroring Mobil Oil Marianas' gas price hikes on Wednesday.

Shell and Mobil's regular unleaded gasoline is now \$4.659 a gallon, a 10-cent increase from \$4.559 a gallon.

Mobil's premium and Shell's V-Power gasoline is now 2 cents shy from breaching the \$5 threshold.

Diesel on Saipan has already breached the \$5-mark at \$5.119 a gallon, higher even than the CNMI's minimum wage of \$5.05 an hour.

Dre, 18, said yesterday he will have more difficulty filling up his V6 pickup truck as gas prices

See SHELL on Page 4



A gas price display at a Shell service station on Middle Road yesterday reflects a 10-cent increase in Shell's pump prices, mirroring Mobil Oil Marianas' price changes the previous day.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



EASTER EGG BUYING

Jalen Nicholas, 3, picks a variety of plastic Easter eggs at the National Office Supply on Beach Road where he and his grandmother, Vicky, went shopping yesterday afternoon for items that will be used to decorate the child's room in time for Easter. But before Easter Sunday and Black Saturday, thousands of residents are expected to trek Mount Tapochao this morning in observance of Good Friday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Hundreds trek up Mt. Tapochao today

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Hundreds of Catholic faithful on island are expected to make the trek to the rock-strewn path leading to the peak of Mt. Tapochao in observance of Good Friday.

The religious holiday, observed on

the Friday preceding Easter Sunday, commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and His death at Calvary. Good Friday is the culmination of Holy Week,

which begins on Palm Sunday.

To mark the passion and death of Jesus Christ, many Christians spend Good

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NO SATURDAY ISSUE

The Saipan Tribune will not be published tomorrow, April 23, 2011, Black Saturday, and will resume regular publication on Monday, April 25, 2011.

Saipan casino through local bill. PAGE 4
NMC presidential search panel members quit. PAGE 6

Local

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LOLLIPOPS

Man gets 18-month sentence for 'ice'

A man suspected of trafficking in methamphetamine or "ice" has pleaded guilty to illegal possession of a controlled substance as part of a plea deal and was sentenced to 18 months in prison.

Hong Wang, 28, was sentenced to 18 months in jail without parole but with credit for time served from July 20, 2010 to Nov. 20, 2010.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja ordered Wang to start serving the remaining 14 months of his sentence on May 19, 2011. Wang is expected to complete his sentence on July 18, 2012, at 2pm.

He was also ordered to pay a \$2,000 fine and a \$100 court as-

essment fee.

Wang agreed to cooperate with investigators and testify at any hearings or trials against his co-defendant, Lin Lin Song, or any other subsequent charged for this incident.

Song is reportedly Wang's girlfriend. The two were arrested in July 2010 during a buy-bust operation.

The remaining charges against Wang—trafficking of a controlled substance, conspiracy to commit trafficking of a controlled substance, and child neglect—were dropped. He was represented in the case by attorney Joseph N. Camacho.

Detective Sean White stated in court during a hearing in July 2010 that a cooperating source had told them that Wang, an alleged illegal taxi driver, is an "ice" dealer who would exchange illegal drugs for laptops, digital cameras, TVs, and other electronic items.

White said their cooperating source managed to buy "ice" from Wang inside his car in a parking lot of a store in San Jose. Song was in the vehicle with their child during the alleged drug transaction.

The case against Song is pending in court. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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CUC fails to meet another deadline

» To submit interim Facility Response Plan for oil spill

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has failed to meet an April 15, 2011, deadline to submit an interim response plan for oil spills, as required by its stipulated agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

"At present, CUC lacks fund-

ing to purchase the balance of the items [that] were in the original solicitation for oil spill response equipment," according to CUC general counsel Deborah E. Fisher.

Fisher notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI last week about the agency's failure to meet the deadline.

She said CUC plans to hold further talks with EPA while they are on site about the changed circumstances at the power plants and how this might affect oil spill response planning.

Among others, Fisher said, CUC plans to discuss the possibility of developing with EPA a standard operating procedure.

In April last year, CUC placed

seven projects, including the Facility Response Plan, on its priority list to ensure that target completion dates will be met.

CUC failed, however, to meet a Feb. 4, 2011, deadline to procure oil spill equipment items. CUC said the bids received did not fully cover all the equipment.

In CUC's latest notice, Fisher said that, on Feb. 27, 2011, CUC acknowledged that its inability to procure all of the spill equipment would impact the

final deadline for the Facility Response Plan.

At the moment, Fisher said, CUC has executed two contracts to meet emergency spills, in addition to CUC's existing agreement with Mobil Oil for spill assistance.

CUC has also eliminated

previous threats that existed in the power plants last year, such as the 400,000 gallons of used oil and sludge in Tank 104 and many hundreds of used oil drums that were previously located in the Tank 104 berm and scattered around the facility, Fisher said.



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Saipan casino through local bill

» Delegation chair says it could spark constitutional debate

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) pre-filed yesterday a "Saipan local bill" that, for the first time in CNMI history, seeks to authorize and establish casino gambling in a senatorial district. He said his House Local Bill 17-44 does not violate Article 21 of the NMI Constitution.

But this early, Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation chairman Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan) said Torres' local bill could spark constitutional debate.

Previous and other pending proposals to legalize Saipan casinos have always been through initiatives which were defeated, and through House of Representatives bills, one of which was killed by the Senate last year.

In the findings of his 34-page local bill, Torres said the measure is pursuant to and is legally consistent with Article 21 of the NMI Constitution which states in part: "[g]ambling is prohibited in the Northern Mariana Islands except as provided by Commonwealth law or established through initiative in the commonwealth or in any senatorial district."

Torres said his Act, albeit a local law affecting the Third Senatorial District or Saipan, "is in fact Com-

monwealth law."

"It applies within the Commonwealth despite not applying to the entire Commonwealth as in the case of a Commonwealth-wide law. Accordingly, as a matter of law, this Act will be a Commonwealth law in full compliance with Article XXI of the Commonwealth Constitution," his bill reads.

But Tebuteb said he expects debate on the constitutionality of the proposal to legalize Saipan casino gambling through local bill.

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation is set to have session on Thursday, when Torres will formally introduce the bill.

Tebuteb said any local bill that's not an appropriation measure needs three

legislative appearances before it could be acted on.

"I would refer it to the delegation's Judiciary and Governmental Operations and Ways and Means Committees," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Tebuteb said he would recommend the committees to hold public hearings on the bill, considering the nature of the proposal.

Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan) said he'd rather have the proposal to legalize Saipan casino gambling through initiative.

Torres pre-filed late yesterday afternoon HLB 17-44 or the Saipan and Northern Islands Casino Control Act of 2011, authorizing and establishing casino gambling on Saipan.

A few hours earlier, Torres told *Saipan Tribune* that this will be the first time that such a proposal is made through a local bill. He said the Constitution does not prohibit legalizing gambling through local law.

Under his bill, 100 percent of gaming tax revenues collected shall be appropriated to Saipan and the North-

ern Islands' medical referrals, Saipan scholarships, utility assistance for low-income persons and Retirement Fund, among other things.

Torres said minimum Saipan casino investment is \$100 million.

Torres, one of the longest serving lawmakers, has a pending Saipan casino bill but the House Ways and Means Committee has yet to act on it and is in fact drafting a new casino bill. One of the draft casino bills allows the issuance of up to three casino licenses on Saipan—one casino license shall be issued to a Northern Marianas Descent corporation, and two for foreign investors who are required to invest at least \$100 million each.

Some House members, however, are more keen on letting Saipan voters to decide whether they would allow legalizing casino gambling on island.

Saipan voters twice rejected a casino initiative years back.

The Senate, which killed a Saipan casino bill last year, said it would rather have the issue decided through a popular initiative.

Babauta named among Pacific women student leaders

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A native of Saipan, Darlyn Salas Babauta, was recognized as among the Pacific women student leaders who won a slot to attend the prestigious National Conference for College Women Student Leaders in June.

Babauta is the daughter of Jose Babauta and Geraldine Salas. She won the NC-CWSL scholarship for women student leader representing the Hawaii-Pacific Division for American Association of University Women. The conference is slated for June 2 through 4 at the University of Maryland College Park.

She attends the University of Phoenix, Hawaii campus in Honolulu, working toward a bachelor of science degree in Human Services. While maintaining a current GPA of 3.88, she serves as a reservist in the Hawaii National Guard. During her two weeks of unit annual training in June 2010 she was awarded the Army Achievement Medal for meritorious service.

According to the American Association of University Women newsletter, Babauta completed a field experience



Darlyn Salas Babauta

practicum of job shadowing and assisting clinical psychologist and the social worker case manager in the Mental Health Department for female inmates with acute mental illness at Women's Community Correctional Center.

She also worked for the Hawaii Department of Education to provide services to special needs students in Leeward Oahu public schools, customer service experience at FedEx where she helped train new employees, and a stint

as a sanitation steward supervisor with Norwegian Cruise Lines where she was awarded employee of the month and manager of the month during her employment.

She was also an AmeriCorps volunteer on Saipan, where she assisted in creating and coordinating activities for a youth center. Last year, she initiated a drive in Hawaii to assist Saipan residents affected by a government shutdown.

The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders offers students the perfect opportunity to hone in their leadership skills and become empowered to implement change on campus and in their communities.

At the conference students will have the opportunity to hear keynote speakers and meet inspiring Women of Distinction Award recipients; participate in workshops focusing on leadership, advocacy, health, and wellness, and "real world" issues like financial literacy and post college life; take part in pre-conference activities and community service projects; enjoy exceptional opportunities to network with women from across the United States and abroad.

STATUS

From Page 1

Sablan's H.R. 1466 also proposes a "CNMI-only resident status" for immediate relatives of U.S. citizens, CNMI permanent residents, and 91 or 92 individuals born here between Jan. 1, 1974, and Jan. 9, 1978, but were not granted U.S. citizenship.

These three groups of individuals may apply to receive an immigrant visa or to adjust his or her status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence on or after Jan. 1, 2015, and before Jan. 1, 2016.

The fourth group of individuals that will be eligible for a CNMI-only resident status are those described in Clause (IV) of subparagraph (C)(iii) of HR 1466.

That provision states: "was, on May 8, 2008, an immediate relative, as that term is defined in section 4303 of Title 3 of the Northern Mariana Islands Commonwealth Code in effect on May 8, 2008, of a United States citizen, not withstanding the age of the United States citizen, and continues to be such an immediate relative on the date of the application described under subparagraph (A)."

Among other things, if nothing is

done to address the immigration status of these four groups of individuals, families will be broken apart as these individuals will have to leave the CNMI under the federalization law.

Sablan said his bill seeks to resolve the status of certain persons residing in the CNMI under U.S. immigration laws.

His HR 1466 is so far cosponsored by Delegate Donna Christensen of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Delegate Eni Faleomavaega of American Samoa, Resident Commissioner Pedro R. Pierluisi of Puerto Rico, and Rep. Dan Boren of Oklahoma.

The bill was referred to the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as they fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

Under Sablan's bill, these individuals will be treated as CNMI permanent residents only, including permitting entry to and exit from the CNMI.

They are, however, not permitted to travel to, or reside in, any part of the United States or its territories, other than the CNMI.

The Department of Homeland Security secretary, under HR 1466, is to es-

tablish a process for such aliens to apply for CNMI-only permanent resident status during the 90-day period beginning on the first day of the sixth month after the date of the law's enactment.

In an interview with reporters in March, Sablan said his bill—which was not yet introduced at the time—will allow these individuals to remain in the CNMI, but such status will not allow them to freely travel and work in the U.S. mainland, and other territories.

They would need to obtain a B1 or B2 visa, for example, to be able to visit the U.S. mainland or other U.S. territories.

Sablan said these individuals do not have a status provided for in U.S. Public Law 110-229, which placed CNMI immigration under federal control.

His bill is entirely separate from the CNMI Senate's recommendation to the U.S. Congress to grant foreign workers who have been in the CNMI for at least 10 years as of May 2008 a status similar to those granted to Freely Associated States.

Sablan is now the ranking member of the U.S. House Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Areas, which has jurisdiction over U.S. insular areas such as the CNMI and Guam. This subcommittee is under the Natural Resources Committee.

SHELL

From Page 1

continue to go up.

He said his gas-guzzling truck was only given to him, so he didn't have a choice when it comes to owning a more fuel-efficient vehicle.

"And I use Shell V-Power because it cleans the engine. It could be a few cents higher than regular but in the long run, it's going to be helpful for the engine," he said in an interview at a Shell service station.

Dre said that while he could not control gas prices, he would work on other expenses that he has control over. For example, he said, he won't be buying car accessories anymore and cut down on electricity use at home.

"I will also cut down on cell phone use to call my family in the states. I will still be calling them but not as much as before," he added.

Dre, who asked that his last name not be published, said one more gas price

increase, and one gallon of V-Power unleaded gasoline will be higher than his hourly salary of \$5.05.

Across the United States and its territories, gas prices have been increasing because of the unrest in the Middle East and northern Africa.

Gas prices in the CNMI are among—if not the—highest in the U.S. and its territories.

This week's price increase came only two weeks after another round of gas price hikes also amounting to 10 cents a gallon. Saipan motorists are now paying at least 53 to 58 cents more for every gallon they pump into their vehicles as a result of the six price increases since the start of 2011. Since February 2009, Saipan motorists have seen an increase of at least \$2 to \$2.05 a gallon in gasoline prices.

Because Shell and Mobil do not issue advance notices of price increases, many Saipan motorists learn of such price changes only by the price displays at gasoline stations.

HUNDREDS

From Page 1

Friday in fasting, prayer, repentance, and meditation on the agony and suffering of Christ on the cross.

Residents start their trek to Saipan's highest point as early as the crack of dawn, taking comfort and refuge in the various booths that offer refreshments along Mt. Tapochao's road.

The observance is highlighted by the carrying of the towering wooden cross that has been in place outside Mount Carmel Cathedral at the beginning of the Lenten season. The cross is transported to the base of Mt. Tapochao, wherein volunteers carry the cross in a procession until they reach the peak where the cross will be erected.

The cross, made of ironwood, measures over 40 feet tall and its crosspiece spans about 18 to 20 feet.

Preparation

The Saipan Mayor's Office has been busy repairing the road leading up to Mt. Tapochao.

"It took about 55 loads of coral to fix the roads, including filling in potholes," executive secretary Vinycia Seman told *Saipan Tribune*.

Seman said staff at the Mayor's

Office worked on the roads for eight working days, even working past 5pm "to ensure the safety of the public on this traditional holy event."

Seman acknowledged the Department of Public Works, Hawaiian Rock, and Reps. Francisco Dela Cruz, Edmund Villagomez, and Ray Yumul who provided assistance in the road repair project.

According to Seman, the Mayor's Office will set up a booth to provide fruits and water to the trekkers.

The refreshments, Seman said, were contributed by various vendors, including Villagomez, Rep. Ramon Basa, IP&E, City Trust Bank, Saipan Machine Shop, Auto Marine, Sars Auto Repair, Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan, Marianas Exchange, Ray Tenorio, and JG Sablan.

Mayor Donald Flores encouraged the community to remember the sacrifices that Jesus Christ made for mankind when He died on the cross.

"Along with my staff and their families, we would like to wish everyone a safe trek up Mt. Tapochao as we partake in this traditional holy event. We have done the best we could with the limited resources by ensuring the roads are accessible and safe. May the Lord bless us all as we observe this day of mourning and later celebrate the joy of Easter," said Flores.

Tobacco firms make annual payments under settlement

RICHMOND, Virginia (AP)—America's top cigarette companies said they have made their payments as part of the 25-year settlement in which some cigarette makers are paying states for smoking-related health care costs.

Philip Morris USA, the nation's largest cigarette maker owned by Altria Group Inc., said that it made its full annual payment of about \$3.5 billion as part of the 1998 Master Settlement Agreement.

The Richmond-based maker of Marlboro, Virginia Slims and Parliament cigarettes said the payment includes about \$267 million that it says it doesn't owe that was deposited into a separate account and will try to get back through negotiations or arbitration.

No. 2 R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., owned by Reynolds American Inc., based in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, has paid

nearly \$2 billion for this year. The maker of Camel, Pall Mall, Kool and other brands, based in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, deposited the portion it disputes — \$477 million — into a separate account, as allowed under the settlement.

No. 3 Lorillard Inc., Greensboro, North Carolina-based maker of Newport, True and Maverick brand cigarettes, has paid \$1 billion, including \$107 million it disputes.

As part of the landmark settlement to reimburse states for smoking-related health care costs, participating tobacco product manufacturers agreed to make about \$206 billion in payments to 46 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and the District of Columbia over more than two decades.

Those companies say a provision in the settlement entitles


them to a reduction if they lose market share to competitors that did not participate in the agreement. But the participating

companies must prove the states did not adequately enforce laws requiring those competitors to place funds in escrow accounts


in case of future litigation.


Philip Morris USA said it has paid more than \$55 billion under the settlement and previous

agreements since 1997. RJR said it has paid more than \$26 billion under the agreement. Lorillard said it has paid about \$13 billion.



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Due to "Good Friday", There will be No Entertainment this Friday

NMC presidential search panel members quit

» NMC mum on recent visit of accreditation team

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The hiring process for the president of Northern Marianas College is not over yet but most members of the board-appointed presidential search committee have already stepped down from the group.

Presidential search panel

chair Andrew Orsini said the resignations of members were conveyed to him right after the Board of Regents started its interview with the top three picks.

Although no formal letters of withdrawal were tendered, Orsini said he accepted the panel members' decision and considered them resigned.

The PSC was created to help NMC look for its next president. Seven members were appointed representing various sectors of the community. Among their tasks was to interview the top

seven candidates and endorse the top three to the NMC board.

Orsini, who is also a member of the NMC board, refused to disclose who among the panel members have quit, besides saying that "almost all of them" verbally conveyed their intent.

The Board of Regents has yet to terminate the resolution that created the search panel, pending the completion of the hiring process. The board has already offered a contract

to Dr. Jeff Armstrong, its third pick after the first two choices fell through.

If negotiations with Armstrong do not pan out, Orsini said the search panel may come in for additional tasks.

"If the board fails to get any candidate...that means the PSC still has a job to do. I am concerned [if that happens] because most of the members are gone," Orsini said.

He is hoping, however, for a positive response from Arm-

strong.

Team visit

A team from the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges was on island last week for a two-day visit but NMC has yet to divulge information on the team's activities and the individuals they met, citing the commission's policy on confidentiality.

"Due to ACCJC's Policy on Public Disclosure, NMC must maintain an appropriate level of confidentiality with ACCJC at this juncture in the accreditation process. As such, NMC is

unable to comment on inquiries for more specific information at this time," states an NMC statement sent to the *Saipan Tribune*.

The college assured, however, that it will make the full visiting team report and other accreditation documents accessible on the NMC website once the commission indicates that it is appropriate to do so.

Saipan Tribune learned that a forum was held during the team's first day on campus attended by about 100 individuals, majority of whom were students and college employees.

Questions for team members reportedly centered on how the commission came up with its decision to place NMC on continued show-cause status.

Fitial signs 3 laws in 1 day, including Northern Marianas Descent Registry

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed three new public laws yesterday, including the establishment of a Northern Marianas Descent Registry within the Commonwealth Election Commission.

The governor also signed into law a bill providing for the care and maintenance of public cemeteries, and a bill amending the Board of Professional Licensing's licensing requirements.

Fitial signed Rep. Sylvester Iguel's (Cov-Saipan) House Bill 17-118, House Substitute 1, which specifies the responsibilities of government agencies when it comes to the maintenance and care of public cemeteries.

Iguel's bill is now Public Law 17-38.

Under the new law, the Department of Public Health administers and manages all

public cemeteries, including the application requirements, approval, issuance and fee for burial permits, as well as the exhumation of human remains for legal- or health-related reasons and fees.

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources, meanwhile, has general supervision of all public cemeteries and over ground maintenance, coordination of burial activities, and further improvements to all public cemeteries.

The Department of Public Safety shall also provide assistance as may be necessary to ensure the security of any public cemetery, upon request by and in coordination with the DPH or DLNR secretary.

The governor also signed Rep. Ray Tebuteb's (R-Saipan) HB 17-16, House Draft 1, amending the licensing requirements of the Board of Professional Licensing.

HB 17-16, HD1 or the Board of Professional Licensing Amendments Act of 2010, is now Public Law 17-39.

Fitial also signed Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogomoro's (Cov-Saipan) HB 17-57, House Draft 1 on the NMD registry. It is now Public Law 17-40.

The Commonwealth Election Commission started registering NMDs in March 2008 in preparation for a future vote on the land tenure law, but such registry was initiated without any statutory authority and may be discontinued.

The registry is seen as instrumental during a general election as far as determining who is eligible to vote on any proposed constitutional amendment to Article XII, which restricts land ownership to persons of Northern Marianas descent.

A person is considered of Northern Marianas descent if he or she is a U.S. citizen or national and is of at least one-quarter CNMI Chamorro or Carolinian blood. An adopted child is also considered of Northern Marianas descent if he or she was adopted by a person of Northern Marianas descent while under 18 years old.

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WOODBIDGE
ROBERT MONDAVI



CUC gets \$34M from federal agencies for its projects

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
boneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Since last year, the cash-strapped Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has been getting a major shot in the arm from federal agencies totaling \$34.1 million that help augment its operation and pursue its projects, majority of which are requirements of stipulated orders.

Of that amount, about \$21 million has been allocated to water and wastewater projects, while about \$13 million will be used to assist the power division, according to CUC executive director Abe Utu Malae yesterday.

The grants came from the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Malae said the federal monies were used to rehabilitate the power plants, wells, water lines, and sewer lift stations as well as to buy needed equipment. A portion was also used to hire personnel as required by the two stipulated orders.

"CUC has been fortunate to receive these grants. Without them, we will still be experiencing rolling blackouts and worse water and sewer services," said Malae.

The grants also had an impact on the levelized energy adjustment clause rates, he said.

"Without these funds, CUC would have had to request for a rate increase that is higher than what it is currently requesting. Like any business,

the cost that we have incurred so far would have been incorporated into the customer billing," said Malae.

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission has just approved a 22-percent increase in the LEAC charge to address the fuel costs incurred in producing power.

In addition to the \$34.1 million received by CUC, Malae said the agency has also applied for additional grants to cover the costs of continued improvements and upgrades, as well as compliance with stipulated orders and for customer service.

Among these applications are with OIA's operations and maintenance improvement program, an application with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and through Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's office.

Malae said that two private companies even prepared submissions to the USDA on behalf of CUC for financing renewable energy projects on Rota.

He also credited the Water Task Force for securing over \$6 million in funding for water projects on island and the assistance of government agencies such as CNMI Energy Division and the CIP office.

Federally-funded projects

Among the many ongoing federally-funded projects for the Water and Wastewater divisions are the Saipan well isolation, engineering and management services, procurement of heavy duty trucks with Tommy lifts for chlorine tanks, Sadog Tasi wastewater rehabilitation, rehabilitation

of the wastewater plant, lift station W-8 collection line rerouting, Agingan wastewater rehabilitation, master plan for water and wastewater, fire hydrant replacement and leak detection, Capital Hill water-line replacement, and chlorine storage building.

For the Power Division, ongoing projects include the retrofit of 1,235 streetlights; streetlights on Rota and Tinian; oily water separators for Power Plant 1; four units of waste oil centrifuges for Power Plant 1; turbochargers for engines 5 to 8 at Power Plant 1; new radiators for engines 1,2,3,7 and 8 at Power Plant 1; and upgraded piston liners and fuel systems engines 2,3 and 6 at Power Plant 1.



Malae

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Meetings on heritage program nearly done

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Only one more meeting before all focus group meetings for the Connecting to Collections 2010 CNMI Cultural Assets Restoration Education Strategy or CNMI CARES statewide planning comes to an end.

Joeten-Kiyu Public Library executive director John Oliver Gonzales said meetings were held on April 18 at the Tinian Municipal Public Library, April 19 at the Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Public Library, and on Wednesday and Thursday with various focus groups on Saipan.

Gonzales said the last meeting, to be held on Saturday at JKPL, is with the CNMI Association of Archives, Libraries and Museums.

According to Gonzales, they are working with various agencies and organizations responsible for taking care of the islands' cultural heritage collections to gather information and data necessary to develop a plan that would ensure a sustainable cultural heritage program.

"We know that, through

these agencies and organizations, we will be able to assess the extent and the condition of the islands' cultural heritage collections," he said.

Gonzales noted, however, that they also need to seek input from other community members that have a stake in the project "to have an all-en-

compassing, comprehensive assessment of the islands' cultural heritage collections."

Appointed CNMI CARES Task Force members are Refaluwasch traditional leader and cultural practitioner Lino Olopai; cultural practitioners Joseph Ruak, Herman Tudela Jr, John S. Castro Jr., and Cinta Kaipat;

CNMI Women's Association president Susanna Blas Deleon Guerrero; NMC president emeritus Agnes McPhetres; former NMI Museum Board of Governors Herman "Juan Pan" Guerrero; retired archivist Herbert S. Del Rosario; and apostolic administrator Rev. Fr. Ryan Jimenez.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dr. Cecilia Lizama Salvatore, third from left, of the Dominican University in Illinois discusses cultural heritage preservation with members of the CNMI CARES Task Force during a meeting last Wednesday.

USDA, NMI clarify communications protocol

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Officials of the U.S. Department of Agriculture grant office in Western Region have raised concerns regarding communication protocols with the CNMI.

"Concerns [were] raised that communication from the CNMI Delegate to USDA national office...adds layers of multi communication, affecting and straining the USDA grantor office in Western Region," said Melvin Faisao, Secretary of the

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

Faisao said the concerns were discussed during a meeting held April 5, attended by himself, DCCA Nutrition Assistance Program division administrator Eleanor Dela Cruz, program adviser to the secretary Elsie Ramon, two other NAP staff, and USDA's Lisa Kim, Greg Saxton, and Maribelle Balbes.

The secretary said he informed the USDA officials that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial is the official state grantee in the CNMI

for the USDA block grant while he, as DCCA secretary, is the state grantee designated administrator for the CNMI Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

Faisao said DCCA-NAP and USDA officials reached an understanding to follow the previously established protocol that communication between the two regarding the block grant will be through the designated administrator and representative for the state grantee "to ensure streamlining and elimination of

added communication."

The meeting also discussed the implementation of the 26.71 cut in food stamp benefits from May 1 to Sept. 30, 2011.

"This was negotiated since DCCA-NAP did not want [the] affected residents or clienteles to undergo a waiting list status," said Faisao.

The Fitial administration announced on Monday the plan to cut food stamp benefits. In his statement, the governor said their request for additional funding cannot be made since the federal government is operating on a continuing resolution.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 22, 1999

PSS employees battle with realities

Some 150 non-certified personnel of the Public School System have received what they call as "love letters" and came face to face with the realities of contractual employment while their employer struggles to keep them. The so-called love letter reminds concerned employees that their contract is due to end on May 8. It will also serve as the termination notice for those who were not recommended for renewal by their respective supervisors. According to acting Fiscal and Budget Officer William Matson, PSS officials are scheduled to meet today to look at the number of renewals in comparison with allotment.

Anti-takeover bid needs govt backing

Hailing a move by the business community to lead the fight against federal takeover of CNMI labor and immigration, Senate Floor leader Pete P. Reyes yesterday prodded the government to assist the private sector in "whatever way it can." He said that since businesses provide revenues to the government, it's part of the responsibility by public officials to ensure that taxpayers' dollars are used for the benefit of the entire community. "The government should help in the efforts by the business community to protect their interests," the senator explained in an interview. "We need to work together."

April 22, 2002

DPS saves \$400K from overtime cuts

From cutting back on overtime expenses to the frugal use of office supplies, the Department of Public Safety has looked at all areas to minimize costs in a bid to stay afloat amid depleting government coffers. DPS deputy commissioners Sandy Tudela and Franklin Babauta last week enumerated the cost-saving measures undertaken by the department, noting that since DPS began reducing overtime three months ago, some \$400,000 has been saved in personnel expenses alone. Even before the executive branch issued expenditure control measures, Col. Babauta said the department already had the resolve to lessen its expenses, particularly by canceling some of its telephone caller ID services, as well as, making wise use of paper supplies.

ITD unit to resume operations

Treatment of PCB-laced soil in Tanapag is expected to resume this month, as both the Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers said that the latter's contractor-the Environmental Chemical Corporation (ECC)-are working with them to address safety concerns at the site. This, as the two federal agencies disclosed some details as to how deceased Filipino worker Roberto Alarzar was burned by hot dust at the treatment site. "ECC is making certain operational and safety changes to meet Corps and EPA requirements. After the two agencies accept these changes, ECC will resume processing PCB-contaminated soil at the work site," according to a joint press statement by the two agencies.

April 22, 2004

DPH says March eel poisoning not deadly

The Department of Public Health took no effort to inform the public about the eel poisoning affecting a group of people last March because it was not deadly. In a statement, the department said that the March incident, unlike the reported shellfish poisoning this month, was a case of Ciguatera, which it described as "a widely common food poisoning." "The hospital does not report cases of Ciguatera because it is widely common. It is not deadly, and it does not cause paralysis," said DPH spokesman John Douglas. In the case of the poisoning of six people after eating Toro early this month, he said it was a paralytic shellfish poisoning incident, which "can be deadly, can cause paralysis, and is extremely uncommon and extremely dangerous."

NMI's AIP funding totals \$40M-plus

The Federal Aviation Administration has channeled more than \$40 million in financial assistance to the CNMI through its Airport Improvement Project funds to support more than 10 ongoing improvement projects at CNMI airports. In his presentation at the 2004 Pacific Aviation Directors' Workshop at the SandCastle, Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Carlos Salas disclosed that various projects funded by the AIPs are currently ongoing on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota airports, with several of them nearing completion. Topping the list of FAA-AIP funded projects at the Saipan International Airport is the \$7-million terminal renovation project that would enclose the entire departure-ticketing area.

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Bridge Capital extends deadline for art competition

Bridge Capital, LLC is extending the submission deadline for the 2nd Annual Art Competition to Wednesday, May 4, 2011, at 12pm. The competition aims to promote and support the talented artists of the CNMI.

The art competition is open to any CNMI resident who has been residing in the Commonwealth for at least one year. The contest has been split into two divisions with an open competition for individuals 18 years and older and the K-12 competition for students from kindergarten through 12th grade.

The contest is open to two-dimensional and three-dimensional works of art and must have a CNMI theme. All entries must be the artist's original work. No computer generated or digitally enhanced submissions will be accepted. A maximum of two entries can be submitted per person.

The winning artworks will be selected by a panel of judges composed of government leaders and business community representatives.

Winners for the open competition will receive \$500 for third prize, \$1,000 for second prize, \$1,500 for first prize, and \$2,500 for the grand prize.

The top student entries from kindergarten to 12th grade will receive \$100, while the classroom teacher of the winning student will receive \$100 store

credit for school supplies at National Office Supply.

There will be an awards presentation and winning entries will be displayed in an arts exhibit

to be attended by the winners and their family members.

Bridge Capital welcomes all local artists to participate in this annual art competition. For

more information, contact Jason Schroeder at 322-2222 or js@bcnmi.com. Additional contest information, rules, and entry forms are available at www.bcnmi.com/artcontest.

bcnmi.com/artcontest.

Bridge Capital is an international investment banking and asset management company headquartered in the CNMI.

The company is involved in a wide range of community activities and makes significant contributions to non-profit and charitable organizations. (PR)

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1st female to finish 5K; 1st male to finish 5K

Advance Registration may be done at PDI's office or Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

For inquiries please contact Mario@322-8786, Hiroko @ 322-8778, Bea @ 285-1694 or Elena @ 234-6412 ext. 1512



Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

After Fukushima

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A few days ago, Japanese officials declared that the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi power complex rated a "7" on a ranking with a scary name: the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale. That's the same rating as the Chernobyl accident of 1986.

Some experts convincingly disputed that dire evaluation, arguing that the release of radiation from Chernobyl was much worse than the situation in Japan—which to date has killed no one. But there's no denying that the ongoing disaster has shaken the nuclear industry worldwide. Six in 10 Americans oppose building nuclear power plants, a recent AP-GfK poll says. That's up from 48 percent in November 2009. Overshadowing an earthquake and tsunami with a death toll approaching 14,000—with a like number missing—is no easy feat. But such is the level of public fear of nuclear energy.

It's urgent that governments and power providers take a fresh look at nuclear power in light of this crisis. Example: The Tennessee Valley Authority said Thursday it is considering millions of dollars in improvements to protect its six nuclear reactors from earthquakes and floods.

But curbing or abandoning nuclear power plants, as some reinvigorated critics are proposing, is shortsighted. Nuclear power supplies about 20 percent of this nation's electricity. Renewable energy sources such as wind and solar are gaining importance, but nuclear remains a key component in electrical generation that releases minimal carbon emissions.

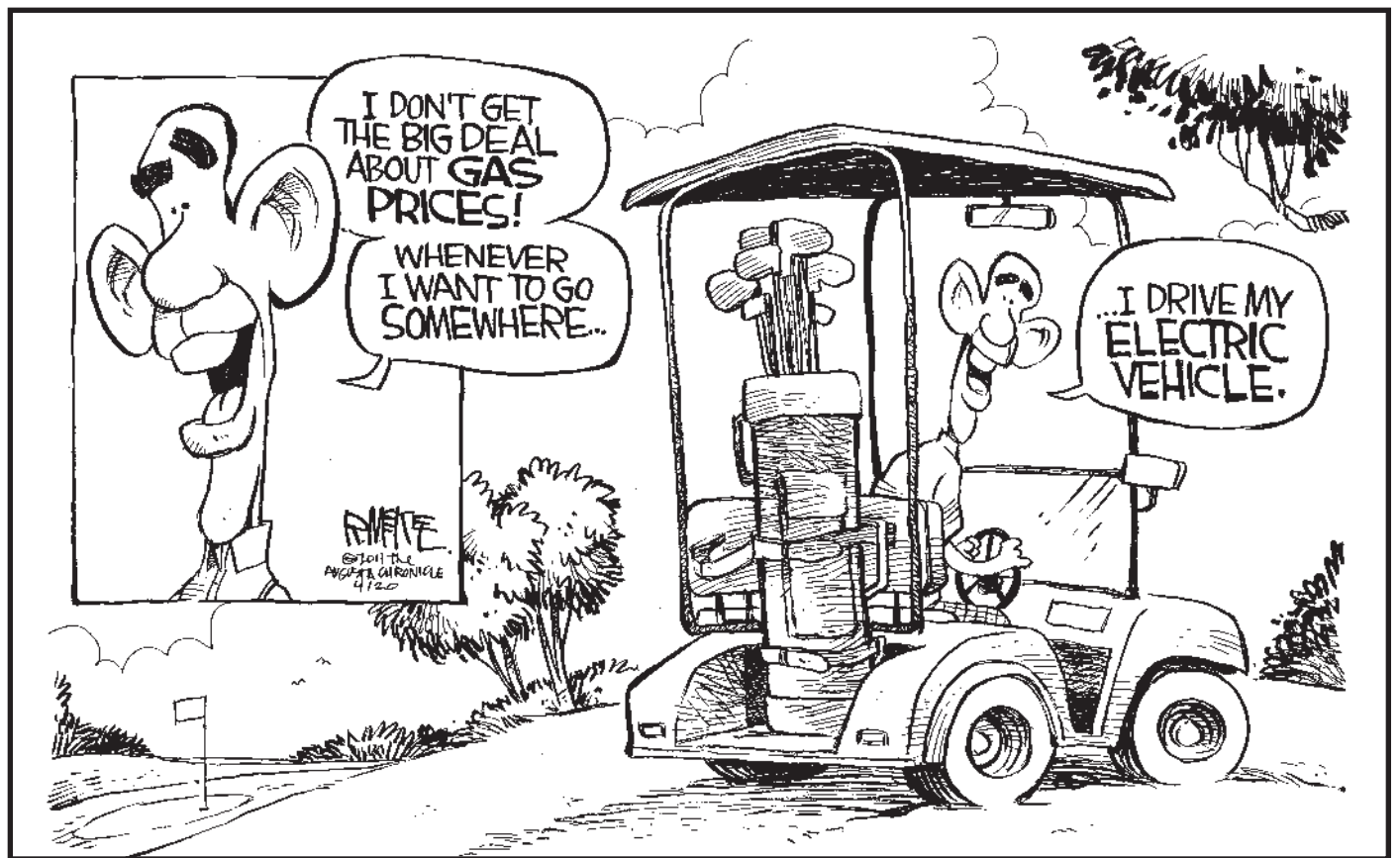
For the industry, the timing of the Japanese disaster couldn't be worse. In recent years, nuclear energy started to gain momentum, even among some environmentalists, as a viable alternative to fossil fuel generation. Now Fukushima raises the specter of earlier nuclear accidents: not only Chernobyl but the less severe Three Mile Island. That 1979 accident similarly occurred at a time when nuclear power was gaining popularity in the aftermath of the Arab oil embargo. A cooling malfunction at that plant in Pennsylvania led to a partial evacuation—and screaming headlines about a potential meltdown. In the end, the main casualty was America's faith in nuclear energy. Planning for new plants stopped. Then came Chernobyl. "Nuclear power equals high risk" was entrenched in the American psyche.

That legacy is reflected in America's aging nuclear fleet. More than half the 104 operating power reactors in the United States are at least 30 years old. Only three have been built in the past 20 years, the last coming online in 1996. As a way to boost output, utilities are turning to a technique called "up-rating," in which existing plants are run at higher capacity to produce more power. Retrofitting existing plants is a more cost-effective alternative to building new ones. But it carries added safety concerns.

Even before Fukushima, the cost of building new nuclear plants had become all but prohibitive. The price tag for a new 1,000-megawatt facility: around \$6 billion, and now likelier to rise than to decline.

Nuclear power is not risk free. But we need to weigh those risks against the known costs associated with fossil fuel use. Among them: environmental accidents such as last year's Gulf of Mexico oil spill and lethal industrial accidents in coal extraction—not to mention the carbon impact of burning fossil fuels.

As emotions cool and acceptance of nuclear power re-emerges, power providers and regulators will focus intently on modern designs for future plants. This we know: No one will be building any more plants from 40-year-old engineering plans like those used at Fukushima.



The Good Earth

We borrow Pearl Buck's title to her celebrated China novel *The Good Earth* ('31), which earned her the '32 Pulitzer Award. Being Good Friday today in the Christian liturgical calendar, and Earth Day in secular commemoration, combining the motif of the two gives us three Pandas.

The Good Earth is a story of tilled Earth and goodness (in the sense of being holy, the Jewish tetragrammaton YHWH, meaning "the way life is, is the way life is"). About the travails of a hardworking farmer in his journey from wedding to old age, it does not come with a "they live happily ever after" ending. The stuff of realism in the details captivated Western audiences in what then was a young China Republic in civil turmoil after deposing the ruling Manchu/Qing dynasty, and whose northern frontiers (Manchuria where we are presently residing) was earnestly coveted by Japan as a place to expand territory for its burgeoning population.

If we take away the thick superstition that accompanies the *Good Friday* recollection of a Roman crucifixion of a zealous Galilean visionary with the collusion of the Jewish Sanhedrin, we find a commonly tragic incident of a reformist sacrificing his life for his cause to the fearful shortsightedness of the entrenched powers. Elevated into the metaphors of Jewish messianic expectations, the Gentile world later appropriated, after the fall of Jerusalem, the Greek term for the Messiah, and thenceforth, Yeshua Ibn Nazareth became *Iesus Kristus*. In his name rose two millennia of European civilization enriching but mostly exploiting the rest of the world.

Jesus was methodologically lucid and politically astute. In the Gospel of John, he asks a sick man by the pool if he wants to get healed and receiving an assent, he is straight forward in his advice: "Why don't you pick up your bed and walk?" The Roman's need for a unifying religion to consolidate the empire under Constantine, and later, with Theodosius, the theistic presumptions of Grecian Mt. Olympus and its hierarchical structure from the plains to the mountaintop, and the Egyptian dichotomy of this world v. the other world, elevated the prophetic voice of the Galilean foothills to the imperial title of God, Lord and Savior!

A priori assumption being heretofore the nature of man's wisdom, the expedient political accommodation got enshrined into the realm of piety and belief, and until the industrial revolution of our time, *Cristo Rey* reigned magisterial over the planet's realm.

We need not throw the baby with the bathwater, but the Jesus of my faith is the no-messiah messiah of John. In my Christian devotion and scriptural exegesis, the Jesus Messiah, on Good Friday, declared to the Jewish world, "You are waiting for a Messiah from the House of David. I have good news for you: No one is coming! You need not wait any longer. Pick up your bed and walk!" That was not the word people wanted to hear.

Ditto today. That's not the standard preaching that convicts moral shortcomings, scares one to an eternal life of perdition needing a bifocal-less Clark Kent for salvation. From Augustine on, this became dogma as even the incidence of human birth was shrouded with the shadows of genetic original sin. The lowly child in the manger became the young prince of the royal household. Dominican Matthew Fox in our time came out with 'original blessing' as starting point, and he had to leave his religious order to continue this tone in his ministry.

Even in economics, the Anglican Thomas Malthus wrote that the increase in population will always exceed food production; there is

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



not enough resource to get around, therefore scarcity is the basis of the economy. The virtue of competition is not so much to promote efficiency as it is to justify some into having more than others, and we pull Darwin's survival of the fittest to footnote that. Economic valuation even measures opportunity cost, an accounting of the value of the choice we did not make! A premium is given to what IS NOT rather than to what IS. Marginal value guides destiny.

Measures of aggregate supply and demand is in terms of currency levels in circulation compared to the assessed value of goods and services that humans are gouged to pay for. Proper use of natural capital is not factored in when measuring the health of an economy. When an industry brings in money, regardless of whether it destroys the environment, or exploits the productive dignity of people, it is a welcome investment. Watch Saipan's casino warlords, and the real estate moguls on Marpi, on their tenacious cling to 'saving' our economic future.

Good Friday this year has the Messiah dramatically declaring that the maintenance of the Good Earth will not come because of federal funds to conserve natural resources, or for more foreign investments to hit our shores. It comes when common folks who cheer with palm fronds on the donkey footsteps of hope at Jerusalem's gate are awakened by the reality that if we want our earth to be healthy, and our economy to be sustainable, we will have to pick up our bed, and walk.

The following song, sung to a traditional Chinese tune, will be heard in Hemingwei's Oral English class today. We're walking.

Now together wandering
Building for the Way.
All our cares born yesterday
Future's beckoning.

Giving form to society
Here our lives fulfilled,
Find us a place to build
Gaia's humanity.

We decide, we set people free
Vision fills the air.
Free to dare, our mission bare
Earth's ecology.

Zhong Guo ren, we are hearing
China's call to be,
Renmin who will care and be free,
A new society.

EDITORIAL POLICY

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Singing the big debt blues

I've fired up the George Jones music today on the MP3 player. Only Jones' mournful resonance can do justice to the topic at hand. In true American style he reduced all of life's woes to the smoky din of jukebox blues at closing time.

And, oh yeah, it's closing time all right, and the morning after is going to hold one bone-crusher of a hangover. I refer to Uncle Sam's debt binge. Just the federal debt alone now amounts to an earth-shaking \$14.3 trillion. Eventually, like a boozier seeing blue lights flashing in his rearview mirror after a big night, it will become obvious that when the party's over, you've still got to answer to the Man, or, should I say, the Market.

It's headline stuff right now. Just about every newspaper this week is carrying stories about the U.S. debt and deficits. And in the Commonwealth, some people are worried that the juicy federal handouts might dry up.

Well, it may be newsworthy, but it's certainly not news. You and I have been looking at this for a long time, haven't we?

Yes, we have. I've been hitting this topic for over seven years now. Most recently, my last column of 2010 (Dec. 31) said this about the New Year, 2011: "There is one more thing I anticipate being a big deal next year, and that is my worries about the Abominable Debt Monster."

So, I said it before. I'll say it again: Uncle Sam's debt is a big deal.

This is an issue on the scale of thick books, not short columns, so I'm forced to choose bite-sized nuggets to present here. All I can do is reach into the box of chocolates, snare a random piece, and see what we've got.

Overall, suffice it to say that a really serious debt situation can wipe out the capital and monetary structure of an economy, pretty much ripping up the economic road.

Here is the key concern in this drama: That foreign holders of U.S. debt will start to smell something rotten, and they will lose their taste for U.S. bonds. It's a risk thing: They'll be worried that they're going to get stiffed by being paid back in weaker, watered-down dollars.

If the appetite for U.S. debt goes down because of risk, then the price of U.S. bonds would fall. This would: (a) Drive up interest rates, (b) reduce economic output, (c) increase unemployment rates, (d) drive down the value of the U.S. dollar, and (e) increase prices of imported goods in the U.S.

That dollar angle alone is enough to light a self-feeding fire. A falling dollar drags down bond returns, which drags down bond prices, which drags down the dollar even more, and so on. When you read about economies melting down financially, that's often times the concept, where a debt crisis and a currency crisis go hand in hand.

OK, back to risk. Why can't more people understand risk? I wish I knew. I guess they regard everything under the sun as a mixture of superstition and politics, which isn't exactly an unknown situation here in the Commonwealth.

Anyway, maybe this state of affairs is what compelled mathematician Nassim Nicholas Taleb to write *Fooled by Randomness*, which is a must-read for anyone with investments, pensions, or any sort of stake in the system.

Even with the low interest rates now, thanks to Asia's currently

By **ED STEPHENS**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at TropicalEd.com. Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday.



healthy (or, perhaps, unhealthy) appetite for U.S. bonds, things are really interesting in the U.S. For example, as of right now, about 43 million Americans are already living on food stamps. In Michigan, formerly a proud showcase of American manufacturing muscle, about 20 percent of the entire state lives on food stamps.

Don't sneer at that one, since it's a not-too-distant mirror for the American middle class.

Anyway, that's some of the stuff that should spring to mind when you see the hand-wringing over the U.S. debt. For now, my guess is that the current attention is merely for domestic consumption, just more political pageant for the rubes and their bumper-sticker slogans. The only thing that really matters is when foreign investors will make their moves. And when will that be? No idea.

Incidentally, on the other side of things, this situation has created great opportunities over the past few years, and I think it will create more.

But opportunism (yeah!) is a topic for a different day. George Jones tunes are too mellow for that gig. We'll need something with some head-banging energy; maybe some Rush or, perhaps, Twisted Sister.

Telling the stories they once could not

When Tiger Woods had trouble with his putter, he became a national conversation. Brett Favre made an off-field pass, and we reveled via Twitter. After Cameron Diaz fed popcorn to Alex Rodriguez at the Super Bowl, America feasted.

It's easy to forget that it wasn't always like this.

Just as the reporters covering FDR overlooked his debilitating condition and JFK was given a pass in the media for his dalliances, sports figures too were once immune to the post-Watergate world of invasive coverage.

Jane Leavy, author of "Sandy Koufax: A Lefty's Legacy" and more recently "The Last Boy: Mickey Mantle and the End of America's Childhood," knows both eras well.

In 1983, the Washington Post dispatched Leavy to interview Mantle after he was hired as a greeter at the Claridge Hotel & Casino in Atlantic City. She'll never forget their first encounter.

"Hi, I'm Mick."

"Hi, I'm nervous," she responded.

"Why? Scared I was going to pull on your t--?" said her childhood hero.

That exchange never made her story. Neither did the fact that during the three-day adventure, a drunken Mantle made a pass at her. Or that he regaled her with tales such as the habit he and Billy Martin had of using an open window in the clubhouse to shoot water up the skirts of women in the ticket line.

Among the mementos from her trip down the Shore are a Mantle sweater and a photograph he signed for her reading: "To Jane, Sorry I farted. Your friend, Mick." She didn't write about that, either.

But things changed in the intervening three decades, after which she wrote her best-seller.

"Just as I was about to ask about his son Billy, I felt his hand on my knee, then on the inside of my thigh," she wrote in "Last Boy." It was another detail not broached in the Post piece, published at the end of a different era—the one in which Mantle thrived playing in the 1950s and '60s.

Back then, Leavy wrote in the book, baseball teams paid for beat writers' meals, drinks, and travel. "You couldn't write one word of it, the debauchery," Leavy quoted Jack Lang, the executive secretary for the Baseball Writers Association of America, as saying. "It wasn't just liquor. It was the women."

By **MICHAEL SMERCONISH**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Michael Smerconish writes a weekly column for The Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may contact him via www.smerconish.com.



Like the coverage of politicians, the way we scrutinize our athletes has changed. Leavy told me that was partly due to a new generation of sportswriters.

"They were '60s kids who were not going to abide by the old mantra that it's all off limits," she said.

One milestone she mentioned: "When Yankees pitcher Ralph Terry had a baby, Stan Isaacs of Newsday said, 'Breast or bottle?' and Terry was irate. Think about that."

It was what Leavy called the new "counterculture of writers," combined with television's taking over the play by play, that changed sportswriting.

"When TV made off with those jobs, and the question became what was going to fill (the) void with the sports page, we all became personality journalists. It became about feelings and the pressing issue of the day. You couldn't ignore (the) massacre in Munich. Or John Carlos in Mexico City. Or Marvin Miller in free agency.

"Our attention became broader-based even as the job got smaller."

Which explains why Leavy's initial writing about her 1983 week-end with Mantle left much on the editing floor.

Missing was Mantle's description of his pain when he injured his knee in his rookie year trying to avert a collision with Joe DiMaggio. ("I s--- my pants. Are you going to print that, Jane?") In 1983, the closest Leavy came to outing the tortured side of Mantle was to write: "He can be vulgar one moment and eloquent the next. The contrast was startling, disconcerting. Mickey Mantle is still the greatest switch hitter baseball has ever known."

While researching her book she learned that the reason Mantle never caught Roger Maris in their 1961 home-run derby was that Mantle had a sexually transmitted disease. When told this, a thunderstruck Billy Crystal asked her, "You're not going to print that, are you?"

She did.

By the time "Last Boy" was published, the standards had changed: "This time the account is full and unexpurgated," Leavy wrote.

Raising the question: Which version would the public prefer?

In Leavy's case, the choice was made more difficult by her subject.

"Mickey Mantle was an extremely honest man, just not always with himself."

Leavy argues that given the wealth of material about Mantle, she was judicious in what she chose to write.

"You don't have to write everything you know to tell the truth, and I don't feel compelled as a writer to tell everything I know."

Letters to the Editor

Please tie up your dogs!

I would like to request dog owners on the island to take care of their dogs. I would like to suggest that owners, whoever is raising the dogs in CNMI to please, I humbly request, that you tie up your dogs. This message is only for those owners who are mismanaging their dogs. Recently, one dog bit me right across the Fire Station II in Garapan. There are three or four dogs staying in the Sang Jee Rent-a Car building, but I don't know who the owner of those dogs are and they never tie them. Not only there but some other places too like Susupe, C.K., Koblerville, Tanapag and other areas. I know about this because they also tried to bite me while I'm passing by on my bicycle. I also see those dogs that are killed on the road. Maybe they were hit by vehicles because those dogs were possibly trying to cross the road.

I hope that I don't need to take more action to solve this problem. If those dogs are nobody's, I hope that the government would start an operation to round up these dogs. I sincerely request that you take control of your animals on this beautiful island.

Basnet Ramesh
Tanapag, Saipan

No longer citizens

This is an open letter to Stanley Torres and all his buddies who think they can do better than having a U.S. passport. Why don't you go down to the Homeland Security office at Saipan International Airport, turn in your U.S. passport and renounce your U.S. citizenship by declaring that you no longer wish to be a U.S. citizen? Stanley, you and your political buddies have run the CNMI into the ground and you think without Uncle Sam's handouts and laws you can do better? Maybe even prosper? Third World countries are governed better than the CNMI!

After all this time, you (CNMI's politicians) have had to make the CNMI a place of beauty and prosperity, you want to put the blame on the U.S. government because things haven't gone your way? Because the CNMI is in such dire straits? How is Uncle Sam to blame for Guam and the CNMI's problems? If not for Uncle Sam, you would be second-class citizens in your own land and speaking Japanese. You would need a visa to go to Guam. You wouldn't be able to own the land that you currently have in the mainland. You wouldn't have been able to get that higher education (that you seem to be wasting) from the U.S. either.






If living life as a U.S. citizen is so bad, why not load up a boat with you, Uncle Ben, and all your cronies, find a Northern Island to claim and declare your own little kingdom. Then you will have no one to blame for the mess except yourselves, which is what you should be doing anyway.

Paul Beebe
Spokane, Washington

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼79
Palau	Showers	▲85 ▼77
Yap	Showers	▲87 ▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲82 ▼79
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87 ▼74
Kosrae	Showers	▲89 ▼77
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼77

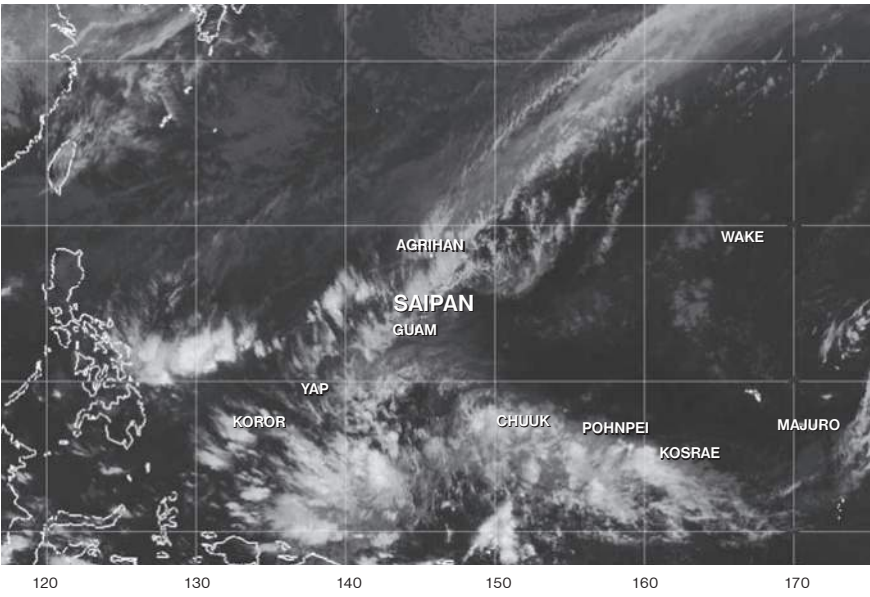
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲67 ▼63
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲71 ▼50
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲77 ▼70
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲83 ▼73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲75 ▼54
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲65 ▼53
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼80
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲63 ▼51
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲87 ▼71
New York	Windy	▲57 ▼40
Osaka	Cloudy	▲64 ▼58
Paris	Sunny	▲77 ▼54
Pusan	Rain	▲62 ▼51
Rome	Mostly Cloudy	▲72 ▼52
Salem	Showers	▲54 ▼35
San Francisco	Showers	▲58 ▼49
Seoul	Rain	▲54 ▼44
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲66 ▼60
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲63 ▼46

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
4:50 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet	
9:37 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	
5:09 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front runs southwestward from 25N157E to 18N144E then continues as a shear line to beyond 130E at 12N. Cloudiness and scattered showers are found along and up to 300 miles northwest of this boundary. A surface trough extends southwestward from a circulation centered over the far Northern Marianas near 19N144E to beyond 130E at 10N. Scattered showers are located within 80 miles of a line from 19N144E to 14N144E. Upper-level divergence is enhancing an area of convection south of Yap and near Koror. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found between the equator and 7N from 131E to 144E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms from over Chuuk to just south of Pohnpei and Kosrae within 200 miles of a line from 6N149E to 1N168E. An upper low centered at 12N173E is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms east of Majuro between 4N and 17N from 174E to 180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:59 AM	6:33 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:33 PM
Sunday	5:58 AM	6:33 PM
Monday	5:57 AM	6:33 PM
Tuesday	5:57 AM	6:33 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:49 PM	9:23 AM
Saturday	11:41 PM	10:22 AM
Sunday		11:18 AM
Monday	12:27 AM	12:11 PM
Tuesday	1:09 AM	1:01 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 21, 2011

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM C09317 4:25am 5:15am Daily C09313 7:55am 8:45am 3, 6 C09313 8:30am 9:20am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09605 6:20pm 7:10pm Daily C09599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	GUAM-SAIPAN C09316 2:45am 3:35am Daily C09596 6:35am 7:25am 3, 6 C09596 7:00am 7:50am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09600 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily C09606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:00am 8:45am Daily, Departs at 6:05am effective June 1 DL285 6:40am 9:15am 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 DL297 4:35pm 7:20pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL286 7:45pm 12:20am+1 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 DL288 8:05pm 12:35am+1 Daily, Arrives at 12:45am effective June 1, 2011
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN OZ120 9:50am 2:20am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:10pm 2:20am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ604 3:20pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:25am Daily via KIX	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) CA988 3:15am 6:55am 1, 5 Dec 13, 17, 20, 24 & 27 only	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN CA987 6:40pm 1:55am+1 4, 7 Dec 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26 only
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09317/891 4:25am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM DL285/173 6:40am 10:15pm 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 via NRT C09313/933 7:55am 9:25pm 3 via GUM C09313/893 7:55am 11:00pm 3 via GUM-Palau C09603/933 3:05pm 9:25pm 5 via GUM C09603/893 3:05pm 11:00pm 5 via GUM-Palau OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7 ICN OZ604/715 3:20pm 11:30pm 7 C09605/933 6:20pm 9:40pm 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ716/603 12:30am 2:20pm 4, 6 via ICN DL172/286 8:05am 12:20am+1 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 C0890/9606 10:55am 8:50pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 1:10pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 1:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:15pm 7:25am+1 6 via GUM PR110/C09596 10:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM C0892/9596 10:25pm 7:25am+1 3 via GUM-Palau C0892/9596 10:25pm 7:50am+1 5 via GUM-Palau C0934/9596 11:10pm 7:50am+1 1, 2, 7 via GUM C0934/9596 11:25pm 7:50am+1 4 via GUM C0934/9596 11:59pm 7:25am+1 3 via GUM C0934/9596 11:59pm 7:50am+1 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG OZ606/721 2:10am 12:00pm 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 12:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/909 3:05pm 10:25pm 1, 5 via GUM OZ604/723 3:20pm 10:35pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	HONG KONG-SAIPAN OZ724/603 12:30am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ750/603 1:00am 2:20pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0910/9596 11:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; CA: Air China ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)	

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

FLY GUAM FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Guam-Saipan	Flight Sector	ETD	ETA	Turn-around Time	Flytime Hrs	Dates
5K389		12:30	13:20	01:00	00:50	Mon, Thu, Sat
Saipan-Guam						
5K382		18:05	18:55	HK	00:50	Tue, Fri, Sun
Saipan-Hong Kong						
5K168		14:20	17:30	HKG	05:10	Mon, Thu, Sat
Hong Kong-Saipan						
5K169		10:00	17:05	01:00	05:05	Tue, Fri, Sun
Mar. 28- May 22						
Guam-Saipan						
5K389		13:35	14:25	01:00	00:50	Mon, Thu, Sat
Saipan-Guam						
5K382		18:00	18:50	HKG	00:50	Tue, Fri, Sun
Saipan-Hong Kong						
5K168		15:25	18:35	HKG	05:10	Mon, Thu, Sat
Hong Kong-Saipan						
5K169		09:55	17:00	01:00	05:05	Tue, Fri, Sun



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

30th Flame Tree Arts Festival on June 9-12 at AMP

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture is gearing up for "a significant milestone in the history of our island community" with the 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival.

The largest cultural event in the Commonwealth, the Flame Tree Arts Festival promotes and perpetuates the knowledge and skills of gifted local artists by providing an avenue for them to dem-

onstrate and display their exceptional arts and crafts.

The 30th Annual Flame Tree Festival will be held from June 9 to 12 at the American Memorial Park, west of the Bell Tower, in Garapan. The festivities will bring together hundreds of local artists as well as local and international performers.

This year's theme is "Celebrating 30 years of Uniting Cultures and Traditions."

"This year's theme is a fitting reflection of our dis-

tinct community. The Arts Council promotes all artists, no matter where they come from," said council executive director Angel S. Hocog.

He said the theme is "a unique celebration of harmony in diversity among all artists in the CNMI."

"The Arts Council and the Flame Tree Arts Festival Committee are hard at work implementing our plans to mark this 30-year achievement with an exciting celebration for everyone to ex-

perience," added Hocog.

Registration is now open for booths at the festival. A total of 20 food stalls and 65 arts and crafts booths are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration fees for the four-day event are as follows: Registered artists, \$50; new or non-registered artists, \$150; private/commercial vendors, \$1,600; non-profit organizations that are allowed to sell local merchandise, \$600; and information

booths, \$250.

Overall committee chair Parker Y. Yobei said the increase in some of the rates for this year's festival will help defray some of their expenses.

"With the local government's limited finances, we would need the community's cooperation and support to make this momentous event a successful one," said Yobei.

Yobei said the committee also decided not to allow the sale of products other than local arts and crafts and food

items as a tribute to local artists. "The use of imported materials will be allowed provided that the finished products are created here on island," he added.

Artists, performing groups, and commercial vendors can pick up registration forms at the Arts Council office on Capitol Hill next to the Post Office building starting April 25, from 8:30am to 4:30pm.

For more information, call 322-9982 or 83 or email at flaf30@yahoo.com.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

NMI Retirees exec on Marianas Agupa tomorrow

This Saturday, April 23, 2011, *Marianas Agupa* will feature Juan M. Sablan, president of the Commonwealth Retirees Association, from 10am to 10:30am on Magic 100.3 FM. Topic of discussion will be the proposed introduction of a legislative initiative to make the Retirement Fund solvent, among other issues facing the retirees' pension.

The Chamorro talk show program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona. Featured reports include a world report and program review by former mayor Joseph S. Inos, followed by special report "In the Spotlight" with Rose Ada-Hocog, a report from Rota by Thomas D. Mendiola, and a report from Tinian by former senator David M. Cing. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. (PR)

Tinian's Tachogna beach red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged Tachog-

na Beach and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of this location for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified. DEQ said that samples from these locations had excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. Water samples were taken from 10 locations on Tinian this week. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

OPA staff on Tinian, Rota next week

Staff of the Office of the Public Auditor will be on Tinian on Wednesday, April 27, 2011, and on Rota on Friday, April 29, 2011, to notarize and accept last-minute filings of financial disclosure statements from government officials. Filers on Tinian may visit the Tinian Gaming Control Commission Conference Room on April 27, from 9am to 4:30pm. Filers on Rota may visit the Rota Mayor's Office on April 29, from 12:30pm to 4:30pm. All filers are reminded to bring with them some form of photo

identification, such as a driver's license or a passport. Failure to do so may result in the denial of notary services. (OPA)

SVES to host Annual Canary Walkathon

The Parent, Teacher, Students Association of San Vicente Ele-

mentary School will be hosting its annual Canary Walk-a-thon on Saturday, April 30, 2011, at the school's baseball field, from

7am until noon. The Canary Walk-a-thon committee has various activities planned for
See COMMUNITY on Next Page

APARTMENT AND CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

SPRING PROMOTION

UNTIL APRIL 30, 2011 (FOR 1 YEAR CONTRACT)

GILL BLAS CONDOMINIUM

Location : GARAPAN, SAIPAN
Landmark : Where 747 Dining & Bar is situated
Price : 1 BEDROOM - ~~\$650.00~~ From **\$500.00~**
: 2 BEDROOMS - ~~\$850.00~~ From **\$650.00~**
Features : Free Moving Service, Furnished Unit, Back-up Generator, Laundry Facility, On-Duty Security Guard at Night, Swimming Pool, 24 Hour Water Supply • Power and Water excluded



PASTEL INN APARTMENT

Location : SAN JOSE, SAIPAN
Landmark : Right besides Rosh's Store
Price : STUDIO TYPE - ~~\$350.00~~ From **\$250.00~**
: 2 BEDROOMS - ~~\$550.00~~ From **\$400.00~**
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SEDA BLANCA APARTMENT

Location : GARAPAN, SAIPAN
Landmark : Close to 747 Dining & Bar
Room type : STUDIO-TYPE, and 1 BEDROOM
Price : ~~\$450.00~~ From **\$350.00~**
Features : Free Moving Service, Furnished Unit, Back-up Generator, Laundry Facility, 24 Hour Water Supply • Power and Water excluded



ANAKS OCEAN VIEW HILL SAIPAN

Location : PUERTO RICO, SAIPAN
Landmark : Close to Bank of Hawaii
Room type : 2 BEDROOMS AND 3 BEDROOMS
Price : ~~\$1,500.00~~ From **\$1,200.00~**
Features : Free Moving Service, Furnished Unit, Back-up Generator, Laundry & Dryer, Swimming Pool & Tennis Court, 24 Hour Fresh Water Supply • Power and Water excluded



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ADA designs and specifications for modifications and upgrading of managaha restrooms and dressing rooms are available at Tasi Tours office.

These designs and specifications can be picked-up between 9:00am to 11:00am and between 1:00pm to 3:00pm from April 14, 2011 to April 22, 2011 only.

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT
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FRIDAY 29, 2011.**

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COMMUNITY

From Page 13

the families of San Vicente Elementary School and the community. Members of the PTSA have been soliciting support for the event and welcome all donations both monetary and in-kind. For more information, call the school at (670) 237-3791/3 or 237-3761. (PR)

Volunteers needed for HPV, cervical cancer focus group

The Department of Public Health, Comprehensive Cancer Control Program requests the assistance of 20 volunteers (10 women and 10 men) to participate in a focus group discussion and survey that will cover the human papillomavirus vaccine and cervical cancer screening in the CNMI.

The CCC program is seeking women who are 21 - 65 years of age; male partners of women ages 21-65 years; and parents or guardians of girls (ages 9-18) who are eligible to receive the HPV vaccination.

Names and responses of all focus group participants will be kept confidential. This is a voluntary project; lunch and gas vouchers will be provided to all participants, however. The focus group discussion is scheduled for April 27, 2011 from 8:30am - 12pm at the Department of Public Health, Secretary's Conference Room.

For more information, or to sign up to volunteer, contact the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program at 236-8728. Interested individuals are asked to register for the focus group discussion on or before April 25, 2011. (PR)

Support meeting for cancer survivors, caregivers

All cancer survivors, their family members, and other caregivers are invited to the next support meeting on Tuesday, April 26, 2011, at Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan starting at 5:30pm. This month's support meeting will begin with a presentation on the rights of cancer survivors and caregivers in the workplace, by Tom Thornburgh, project specialist for the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. NMPASI attorney Jeanne Rayphand will also be present to answer questions. The presentation will be followed by breakout discussions in two groups: survivors and caregivers.

For more information or to RSVP, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email cca@ccamarianas.org, or call the

DPH Comprehensive Cancer Control Program at 236-8728. (CCA)

Team Aschoscho to host MMAC softball tournament

Marianas March Against Cancer's Team Aschoscho will be hosting a co-ed softball tournament fundraiser from April 30 - May 1, 2011, at the Capital Hill baseball field. The requested donation to register is \$150, and the deadline to register is April 29, 2011. All proceeds will go to the Marianas March Against Cancer. For more information, contact Jerome delos Santos at 989-7456, or Nadia Saralu at 288-1458.

The Aschoscho softball tournament is one of a series of fundraising events hosted by teams of volunteers and leading up to the main Mari-

anas March Against Cancer event, which is scheduled for May 13-14, 2011 at Hopwood Junior High School. (CCA)

CCA board meeting on April 25

The Commonwealth Cancer Association board of directors will be convening its next monthly meeting on Monday, April 25, 2011, at 4:30pm at the Department of Public Health Secretary's conference room. The agenda will include reports from the program manager and board committees, including updates on the CCA's breast and cervical cancer volunteer outreach training project. All CCA board meetings are open to the public. For more information, call 682-0050 or email cca@ccamarianas.org. (CCA)

Reminder to CNMI cancer survivors

All CNMI cancer survivors are asked to contact Team Courage chair Nora Sablan at FHP Clinic to register for the Marianas March Against Cancer Survivors Dinner on May 13, 2011 at Hopwood. Call Nora at 235-0994 or email norasablan@gmail.com to confirm attendance. (CCA)

Info on planned buildup projects in Guam now available

Information regarding the military relocation to Guam's proposed construction projects for fiscal year 2012 are now available on the Cultural Resources Information (CRI) website at <http://bit.ly/NAVFAC-GuamPA>.

Those without Internet access can get a written description of each project and a mail-in comment form from the Guam Historic Resources Division, located at 490 Chalan Palasyo, Agana Heights, 96910 (across from the U.S. Naval Regional Hospital).

Comments on the identification and evaluation of historic properties within specific project footprints will be accepted for 45 calendar days after each project is posted. The comment deadline for the Finegayan Water Utilities project, P-2048, is May 31, 2011. (USN)

Comments sought on Marianas marine monument

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are now accepting public comments as they prepare a monument management plan for the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument. Comments are being accepted through May 5, 2011, and should be sent to Heidi Hirsh, Natural Resource Management Specialist, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1601 Kapiolani Blvd 1110, Honolulu, HI 96814. E-mail: Heidi.Hirsh@noaa.gov. For more information, visit www.fpir.noaa.gov/MNM/mnm_index.html or www.fws.gov/marianastrench-marine-monument. (PR)

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Feel the difference

Timely payroll on Holy Week

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that there will be payroll for critical and non-critical government employees this Holy Week. Many of the employees got their paychecks yesterday.

Holy Friday is an unpaid holiday, pursuant to Public Law 17-21 or the fiscal year 2011 budget law.

This is only at least the third time this

year that all employees received their payroll on time.

Most of the time, only non-critical government employees have been receiving their paychecks on time, including doctors, nurses, police officers, firefighters and corrections officers. Also receiving their paychecks timely are federal funded employees and those at

the Public School System.

Inos said revenues coming in are still short, but the administration prioritized payroll this Holy Week and held off on other government obligations. The government needs some \$4 million for each biweekly payroll.

Since June 2010, the government has been delayed in the issuance of paychecks for so-called non-critical employees for at least a dozen times. *(Haidee V. Eugenio)*

Continued detention for man with alleged fraudulent driver's license

The federal court ordered yesterday the further detention of a jobless man arrested last week for allegedly obtaining a CNMI driver's license through fraud.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Robert C. Naraja said that Wei Lin is a flight risk. The 28-year-old Chinese national will be detained until his preliminary hearing on May 18, 2011.

Immigration and Custom Enforcement special agent Isra D. Harahap testified yesterday how their investigation led to Lin's arrest on April 12, 2011.

Harahap said that on April 1, 2011, Lin

was found in possession of a duplicate CNMI driver's license after telling the Bureau of Motor Vehicles that his driver's license had been lost, even though the original license was actually seized by a police officer and transferred to ICE.

Attorney Joseph N. Camacho, counsel for Lin, reiterated an earlier concern as to who enforces immigration laws in the CNMI. He said it was a police officer who made the traffic stop on Lin and then questioned him about his immigration status. When the officer asked how he obtained his driver's license, Lin allegedly stated that he paid

a Bangladeshi or Indian national \$350 for it.

Camacho said that, on April 1, 2011, an ICE agent told Lin to voluntarily depart the CNMI. This prompted Lin to buy a plane ticket for China. As Lin was about to leave Saipan on April 12, however, the same ICE agent arrested him, Camacho said.

The complaint filed by the U.S. government charged Lin with two counts of knowingly possessing, obtaining, accepting, and receiving a CNMI driver's license obtained through fraud. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Free medical mission in Gualo Rai, neighboring areas

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The third Village-to-Village Medical Mission of the Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ 4th Watch will be visiting Gualo Rai and neighboring areas on Sunday, April 24.

The medical mission, from 4pm to 7pm, at the Gualo Rai basketball court, will offer free screening for blood sugar and blood pressure, reflexology, physical therapy, eye screening, facial massage, and haircut.

"This medical mission is different in that we will also get the height and weight measurement of all community members who will avail of the services during the event," said Doca church spokesperson Ronnie.

Once again, a gift certificate worth \$150 from Marianas Eye Institute will be given away to the individual deemed to have the most immediate need of attention in regards to vision.

Volunteers for the medical mission consist of the Northern Marianas

College Nursing Club, Marianas Eye Institute, Micronesian Brokers Inc., hairstylists Rhea and Patrick, and other church members.

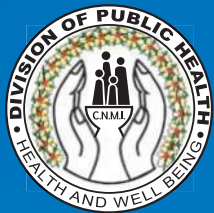
"We thank our sponsors and volunteers for their untiring support in partnering with us to reach out to the community," said Doca.

Doca urged all residents of Gualo Rai and neighboring villages to take advantage of the free services during the medical mission.

This activity is part of the church's global mission of providing public service to the community through Dalaw Kalinga (Care Visit) Foundation, he added.

The first village-to-village outreach was held in February at the Tanapag basketball court to accommodate residents from As Matuis, Tanapag, and San Roque. Last month, the successful mission held at the Garapan basketball court drew 116 individuals seeking free medical services.

For more information, call Pastor Claire Javillonar at 235-1656 or text 789-7566.



How is your baby growing?

If your child displays any of the following signs of possible developmental delay, talk to your doctor, nurse, or other health care provider about it:

Developmental Health Watch 8 to 12 Months (1 Year)

- Does not crawl
- Drags one side of body while crawling (for over one month)
- Cannot stand when supported
- Does not search for objects that are hidden while he or she watches
- Says no single words ("mama" or "dada")
- Does not learn to use gestures, such as waving or shaking head
- Does not point to objects or pictures
- Does not play peek-a-boo by 8 months
- Experiences a dramatic loss of skills he or she once had

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

You may also contact the **Children's Developmental Assistance Center (C*DAC)** at **664-4830** for a **FREE** developmental screening!

Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early. Supported in part by project H25MC06112 from the MCHB (Title V, Social Security Act), HRSA, DHHS.



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Continental donates airline tickets to NMC Foundation's tournament

Continental Airlines recently donated six roundtrip tickets that will be used as first place prizes for the 9th Annual Northern Marianas College Foundation Open golf tournament.

The company also donated an additional roundtrip ticket that will be used as a prize for the raffle drawing. The tickets can be used for travel to any destination Continental flies in Asia and Micronesia.

The 9th Annual NMC Foundation Open golf tournament is organized by the NMC Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose volunteer members are dedicated to improving higher education in the CNMI by encouraging private and public support for Northern Marianas College. The funds raised from the tournament will be used for the advancement of educational programs and student services at the college.

"Continental Airlines has always been a strong supporter of the NMC Foundation and the work that it does for the CNMI's lone, accredited public institution of higher learning," said Lou Sanchez, Continental Sales and Marketing manager. "We are extremely happy and excited to be participating as sponsors for this year's tournament again."

"The Foundation is highly appreciative of Continental

Airlines' longstanding and unwavering support of our efforts," said NMC Foundation president Ben Babauta. "The prizes donated by Continental will undoubtedly draw more golfers and in turn help us raise more critically-needed funds for the college."

The tournament will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2011 at the Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort (West Course). Showtime is at 6am, with a shotgun start at 7am. The tournament will follow a medal play format.

Further, the tournament will feature six separate flight categories: Championship, A, B, C, ladies, and seniors. In addition to the airline ticket, first place

Military training on Farallon de Medinilla

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on the following dates and times:

- April 25, from 9am to 3pm
- April 26, from 9:30am to 9pm
- April 27, from 8:30am to 5pm
- April 28, from 8:30am to 10:30pm
- April 29, from 11am to 3pm
- April 30, from 8am to 12pm

The public, especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

finishers for each category will receive \$500. Second and third place finishers will win \$300 and \$200, respectively. The event will also feature hole-in-one prizes like a Hyundai Tucson GL sponsored by Triple J Motors and \$25,000 sponsored by Aon Insurance.

Those interested are invited to bring their family, friends, and playing partners for a great day of fun and fundraising for a good cause.

For information on how to donate to the NMC Foundation or to register to play, log on to www.nmcnet.edu or call 234-5498 Ext. 1050. Registration forms can be downloaded from www.nmcnet.edu or picked up at the NMC Cashier's Office, Saipan Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, or Triple J Motors. (NMC)

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides access frequency that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon provides sufficient room for the many different attack profiles necessary to replicate training opportunities in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. (PR)

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<div>LOTUS JASMINE RICE</div> <div><div><div>\$24.99</div><div>50 LBS.</div></div></div> <div>DIAMOND G RICE</div> <div><div><div>\$28.99</div><div>50 LBS.</div></div></div> <div>TURKEY TAIL</div> <div><div><div>\$18.99</div><div>CASE</div></div></div> <div>CHICKEN WINGS</div> <div><div><div>\$11.99</div><div>5.5 LBS.</div></div></div> <div>PORTUGUESE SAUSAGE</div> <div><div><div>\$1.99</div></div></div> <div>CHAMORRO SAUSAGE</div> <div><div><div>\$4.99</div></div></div> <div>VEGA SHRIMP</div> <div><div><div>\$5.49</div></div></div> <div>TILAPIA</div> <div><div><div>99¢</div><div>/LB.</div></div></div> <div>MILK FISH</div> <div><div><div>\$1.39</div><div>/LB.</div></div></div>										
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<div>LUVS FAMILY PACK</div> <div><div><div>\$16.99</div><div>SIZE: 3,4,5,6</div></div></div> <div>BOUNTY</div> <div><div><div>\$15.99</div><div>15 ROLLS</div></div></div> <div>BOUNTY</div> <div><div><div>\$8.99</div><div>8 ROLLS</div></div></div>										
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WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. LIMITS MAY VARY • PRICES MAY CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE										

From left, Eloy Lizama, executive vice president, IP&E Guam; Brian Bamba, vice president-Strategic Planning & Optimization, IP&E Guam; Yoshiyuki Kimura, consul-general, Consulate-General of Japan; Chita Blaise, chief executive officer, American Red Cross-Guam Chapter; and Joe Camacho, chief operating officer, IT&E.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IP&E, IT&E donate \$25,000 to Japan disaster relief fund

Sister companies IP&E and IT&E have teamed up to provide important relief to disaster stricken Japan.

"We're proud to be able to work together with our customers and our staff in an effort to provide much needed relief for our neighbors in Japan," said IP&E executive vice president Eloy Lizama. He went on to say, "Once again, our customers and our staff have demonstrated their compassion to those less fortunate."

Since the disaster in Japan took place, IP&E and IT&E have teamed up to provide an outlet for employees and customers to contribute. IP&E donated five cents for each gallon of gas purchased at any Shell Station and IT&E matched customers' text contributions of 50 cents. Together \$25,000 was raised to support the effort.

Joe Camacho, chief operating officer of IT&E added, "We are grateful to be able to team up with our sister company and have a positive impact on an unfortunate situation. Our customers on Guam and in the CNMI are loyal and we sincerely appreciate their assistance with this effort."

The disaster in Japan hit particularly close to home with both IP&E and IT&E since both companies include prominent Japanese equity partners, Itochu and Sumitomo respectively. Brian Bamba, vice president-Strategic Planning & Optimization IP&E Guam added, "On behalf of the Delgado group of companies, we are pleased to work with the American Red Cross on Guam and Saipan, Japan Red Cross and the Consulate of Japan on these important relief efforts." (PR)

Order UoG logo merchandise online

The University of Guam and Pacific Charlie now offer UOG merchandise for sale online at myguamtees.com.

"This is the second phase of the collegiate licensing partnership we have with Pacific Charlie," said Cathleen Moore-Linn, director of Integrated Marketing Communication at UOG. "UOG logo merchandise was launched at Kmart in the final quarter of 2010 and now alumni and others who want to promote the Triton spirit can order T-shirts online. I have received many requests over the years from people who wanted to purchase UOG merchandise but we did not have a system in place to provide this service. Our collegiate licensing program with Pacific Charlie

and the implementation of the online store has enabled us to expand our market to the U.S. mainland and beyond."

"Once on myguamtees.com, there is a UOG link that takes viewers to the UOG merchandise page where fans can make their purchases," said Pacific Charlie's Chuck Sukola. "Currently there are several T-shirts available for order and additional items will be added to the inventory by the end of the year."

Through the collegiate licensing agreement, UOG receives 8 percent of the proceeds from each item sold. "We look forward to launching a new series of logo items to celebrate the University of Guam's 60th anniversary in 2012," added Moore-Linn. (UoG)

Law Day poster and essay contests

Poster and essay submissions are being collected on April 26 from elementary and junior high schools for consideration in the Law Day Poster and Essay Contests, part of the National Law Week 2011.

Fifth and sixth graders from the Commonwealth's public and private schools have been invited to create posters relevant to this year's national Law Week theme: The Legacy of John Adams, from Boston to Guantanamo. John Adams was the second President of the United States who during his legal career is remembered for his unselfish representation of those accused in the 1770 Boston Massacre, ably defending

them at trial, despite their public unpopularity. Seventh and eighth graders have been invited to submit essays on the same subject.

Justices, judges, and staff will review the submissions and determine the winners. Cash prizes, a copy of the newly published *Judiciary History Book* and certificates of recognition will be awarded the winners at an award presentation to be held at the Supreme Court during Law Week May 2-6, a celebration co-sponsored by the NMI Judicial Council, the Northern Marianas Judiciary Historical Society, the CNMI Bar Association, and the Public School System Commissioner. (PR)



Wishing everyone one a Happy Easter

Happy Easter

On behalf of our employees and management team, we wish you a Happy Easter.

May the joy of Easter fill your heart today and the whole year ahead.

 **Tan Holdings**

www.tanholdings.com



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-11-020

LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from firms for the lease of office spaces for CUC's Administration and Operation in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The specification may be picked-up at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-11-020, Lease of Office Space CUC's Administration and Operation"** to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM, (CST) local time on **May 19, 2011**. Late submission will not be considered.

The proposed office space must conform to American Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA and CNMI Zoning requirements.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) local time on **May 9, 2011** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Purchasing Officer via email msablan@cucgov.net; Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications, only to prospective Offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

NMC, UoG take part in Pacific-wide project to help prevent kids' obesity

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Scientists from the Northern Marianas College and the University of Guam will be joining a team of experts across the Pacific that will develop obesity prevention strategies among native populations in the region.

The project will be funded by a \$25-million grant the U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded yesterday to the University of Hawaii as part of the USDA's commitment to meet the rising challenge of obesity in the United States, especially in American youth.

"We know that in order to win the future, we have to win the race to educate our children. That means that our kids must be healthy so they can learn and thrive," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "Improving childhood nutrition remains a key priority of the Obama Administration as we work to ensure our kids are ready to out-compete in an increasingly globalized world."

The five-year research project will use a community-based participatory research approach that engages communities to prioritize obesity prevention strategies. Researchers will work with communities to develop community needs assessments

and establish sustainable nutrition and health-promoting programs. Specifically, the team will identify specific environmental factors leading to childhood obesity in selected schools and daycare facilities. Intervention strategies will be attuned to culturally-specific needs and goals, and focus on physical activity, nutritional intake and the amount of sleep children get each night.

The project will train 22 specialists in food, nutrition and public health and develop research and evaluation methods that will help young children maintain healthy weight and prevent obesity. Dr. Rachel Novotny at the University of Hawaii will lead the project team. Aside from NMC and UoG, the team will include scientists from the University of Alaska, Fairbanks; the University of Alaska, Anchorage; American Samoa Community College; the College of Micronesia; Windward Community College, Kaneohe, Hawaii; and the University of Hawaii Kapiolani Community College.

The grants are awarded through USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative and administered through USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Improving child nutrition is a focal point of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act that was signed by President Obama in December 2010. This legislation reauthorizes USDA's child nutrition programs, including the Summer Food Service Program and the National School Lunch Program, which serves nearly 32 million children each day. It will allow USDA, for the first time in over 30 years, the chance to make reforms to the school lunch and breakfast programs by improving the critical nutrition and hunger safety net for millions of children. Investigating science-based interventions and studying obesity in children can also strengthen these programs. The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act is the legislative centerpiece of First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! initiative. To learn more, visit www.LetsMove.gov.

Through federal funding and leadership for research, education and extension programs, USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture focuses on investing in science and solving critical issues impacting people's daily lives and the nation's future. More information is available at: www.nifa.usda.gov. (USDA)



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-11-025

LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE FOR POWER DIVISION, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from firms for the lease of office spaces for CUC's Power Division, Transmission & Distribution Section in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The specification may be picked-up at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-11-025, Lease of Office Space, Power Division, T&D"** to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM, (ChST) local time on **May 20, 2011**. Late submission will not be considered.

The proposed office space must conform to American Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA and CNMI Zoning requirements.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) local time on May 9, 2011** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email msablan@cucgov.net; Mr. Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Muna, CUC Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications, only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-11-028 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC GENERATION

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced Independent Power Producers (IPP), to supply electrical energy generated from commercially proven Solar Photovoltaic System (SPS) for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CUC seeks responses from qualified developers from which the CUC intends to select one, or more, respondent(s) to negotiate Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) and install generation SPS facilities that best fit the CUC's requirements.

The Scope of Services requested in the Request for Proposal shall include, but not be limited to, securing sites, all permits and approvals from governing agencies, and providing all labor, services and equipment necessary to design, procure, install, construct, test, commission, monitor, operate, and maintain fully operational SPS Generating Facilities. Selected IPP(s) will be responsible for operating and maintaining all facets of the Generating Facility (ies) and for generating the required output as described in the Request for Proposal.

The Scope-of-Services will be **e-mailed** upon request, to all interested Offeror, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 AM to 4:00 PM), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **May 16, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**, at CUC Power Plant No. 1 Administration Building, Lower Base Industrial Park, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-11-028 Solar Photovoltaic Generation"** to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **September 29, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

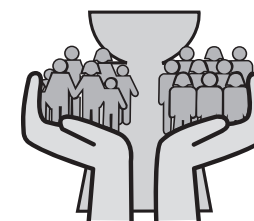
All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **June 14, 2011** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director, Power Generation/Distribution, via address email wallon59@yahoo.com. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Public Health
Community Guidance Center
Guma' Ina' Ayuda Imwaal Alillis
(Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services)



PROJECT BRABU

Public Service Announcement - Availability of Federal Funds

The Department of Public Health Community Guidance Center (CGC) Prevention Unit - Project Brabu is pleased to announce the availability of federal funds, through the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) for eligible communities in the CNMI to apply. This project is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

Details of the grant and funds available are listed below.

I. Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG): FY2010 \$400,000

The planning and implementation of this grant award will focus on four primary goals:

- 1.) **Build Prevention Capacity and Infrastructure in the CNMI**
- 2.) **Prevent the Initiation of and Reduce Substance Abuse, Including Childhood and Underage Drinking**
- 3.) **Reduce Substance Abuse-related Problems**
- 4.) **Evaluate All Activities**

The SPF SIG provides awarded communities with the opportunity to build and/or strengthen an effective and sustainable evidence-based prevention program that is responsive to the needs of the CNMI community. Community programs are required to implement evidence-based prevention programs focused on the following priorities that have been determined by Project Brabu and the State Epidemiological Workgroup (SEW):

- 1) **Underage Drinking, and/or**
- 2) **Drinking and Driving**

This grant award requires a **Strategic Prevention Framework** to help guide communities toward successful program management process following the five steps below:

- 1) **Assessment:** Accurately assess community problems, assets, and resources;
- 2) **Capacity:** Describe current capacity and/or plans to build capacity;
- 3) **Planning:** Develop a comprehensive Strategic Plan;
- 4) **Implement:** Identify the evidence-based program, policy or practice to be implemented;
- 5) **Evaluate:** Process and impact evaluation through monitoring and documentation of program implementation.

Under the SPF SIG, the assigned percentages are reflected for interested community prevention program applicants:

Approximately 50% of allotted funding to Innovative Programs/Projects
Approximately 30% of allotted funding to Education and Outreach Programs
Approximately 20% of allotted funding to Cultural and/or Faith-based Programs

The Project Brabu Advisory Council will make the final determination on applications to be awarded based on a point system. The grant application guidelines detail the information required and the points under each of the sections.

All completed applications must be submitted to the CGC Project Brabu's office on Saipan and the CGC Substance Abuse Prevention offices (Rota and Tinian) no later than 3:30 p.m. on Friday, May 20, 2011.

Sub-Grant Application forms and guidelines may be obtained at the Project Brabu Office at the Gualo Rai Center, 3rd floor, Suite #304 (Saipan) or the CGC Substance Abuse Prevention offices on Rota and Tinian. Also, the application form and guidelines are available on the CGC website at www.cgcsn.net. For more information, please contact Mr. James Arriola at 323-6571/72 or jamesharriola@gmail.com (Saipan); Mr. Keith Nabors, Prevention Coordinator (Tinian) at 433-6572 or tiniantyphoon@hotmail.com; or Ms. Avery Hocog, Prevention Coordinator (Rota) at 532-6572 or avery_hocog@yahoo.com.

Pre application workshops are scheduled as follows:

- May 4 (Tinian), TBD
- May 5 (Saipan), TBA
- May 6 (Rota), TBD

These workshops will provide on-site technical assistance in discussing the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) 5-step process, the sub grant components and requirements. The workshops are available to interested community members/agencies and are free of charge.

/s/ Mr. Jerome Ierome
 Chairman, Advisory Council

/s/ Ms. Josephine Sablan
 Director, CGC and Project Brabu

Island Snapshots



Hopwood Junior High School principal Jonas Barcinas is flanked by Department of Public Safety officers who made presentations to the students for the school's DARE program. This school year, 580 seventh graders are expected to complete the 10-week rigorous training program.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



SART TEAM

Members of the Sexual Assault Response Team pose for a group photo at Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo's court room Tuesday morning. The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence and various service providers teamed up to create SART to improve services for victims of sexual assault in the Commonwealth.

CLARISSA V. DAVID



DELTA DONATION

Richard Parsons, Delta Air Lines Guam and Saipan manager, and Esther Sound, sales and marketing representative, hands two checks worth \$3,500 and \$1,429.50 to Rotary Club president Glen Perez during the Rotary's meeting on Tuesday. Parsons said the \$3,500 is for the Parade of Books, which was held April 2 at the Marianas High School gym, while the \$1,429.50 was to cover the cost of the dictionaries distributed last month to third graders in public schools in the CNMI.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

▲ TOURISM PRESENTATION

Marianas Tourism Education Council board member Ed Cho, general manager of Saipan Grand Hotel, not seen in photo, makes a presentation to students last month at Mt. Carmel High School. MTEC has been conducting presentations at local high schools on the importance of tourism and promoting the formation of school MY WAVE (Marianas Youth Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) clubs.

MVA



UPWARD BOUND

Northern Marianas College Upward Bound students take time to pose for a group photo during an NMC campus tour. The students from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota toured the campus as part of their recent Seniors' Retreat, which aimed to assist graduating high school seniors successfully transition to college with various educational workshops and activities. The NMC Upward Bound program is a federally funded program that assists high school students to prepare, apply and succeed in college by providing various educational opportunities.

NMC

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday greetings go out to Ninang Eilen Vidal! Wish you more birthdays to come, more blessings and good health. Greetings come from Royce, Rane, and Roxanne Ben
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Belated happy birthday to Justice Javy Basa Aldan. May you have many more birthday wishes from the big man above come for you! Greetings come from your brothers and the family.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Advanced happy birthday to Jacinta Muna Lacy, who will be celebrating her birthday on April 25! Thank you for all that you do. We love you so much. Greetings come from, Bin, Edward, Lawrence, Ness, and family.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 3rd birthday to our little giant, Zachary "Zach-man" Camacho, who is celebrating his special day today, April 22! You have brought us so much joy with your unique way of doing what you do. We wish you nothing but the best and more blessings from the Lord above! We love you always! Greetings come from Dad, Mom, VJ, Veronica, Zaria, and all your family.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business

BP sues rig owner for \$40B; blames it for disaster

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—BP on Wednesday sued the maker of the device that failed to stop last year's calamitous Gulf oil spill and the owner of the rig that exploded, alleging that negligence by both helped cause the disaster.

The British company said in papers filed in federal court in New Orleans that it is suing rig owner Transocean for at least \$40 billion in damages, accusing it of causing last year's deadly blowout in the Gulf of Mexico that led to the worst offshore oil spill in U.S. history. BP says every single safety system

and device and well control procedure on the Deepwater Horizon rig failed.

It also is suing Cameron International, which provided a blowout preventer with a faulty design, which caused an unreasonable amount of risk that harm would occur. Both companies have filed counter claims against BP. Late Wednesday, BP also sued cement contractor Halliburton alleging fraud, negligence and concealing material facts in connection with its work on the rig.

The filings are essentially

legal maneuvers to preserve the companies' claims. A federal trial is scheduled for next year that will determine which companies are at fault and how much their liability should be.

The lawsuits, filed on the first anniversary of the explosion that led to the spill, seeks damages to help BP pay for the tens of billions of dollars in liabilities it has incurred from the disaster. Though BP has estimated its liabilities at \$40.9 billion, it still could face tens of billions of dollars more in civil and criminal fines and penalties from the U.S. government.

BoG nominees win 3 SBA awards

» Ada, Cruz and Guzman Top Small Businesses for 2011

HAGATNA, Guam—Bank of Guam nominees to the U.S. Small Business Administration have been awarded prestigious Small Business Awards for 2011.

Vicente D. Ada, founder of Ada's Mortuary, Inc., won the 2011 Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Business of the Year.

Serving the community for over 40 years and starting out from a modest home-based business, the Ada family grew to a three-storey facility housing an expanded showroom and related facilities. The Ada business has been family-owned, with most of its employees being family. A disabled veteran,

and former Guam senator, service to the people has been the Ada family's principal goal.

Reanna Cruz, Bank of Guam assistant vice president/Commercial Loan officer won the 2011 Financial Services Champion of the Year. With the bank for eight years, Cruz has worked to increase the bank's SBA lending portfolio. She has participated in the SBA and the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) workshops and other community organizations. She has mentored several junior loan officers, and her efforts resulted in one of them being named the 2010 SBA Loan Of-

ficer of the Year.

Monica O. Guzman, Galaide Group chief executive officer and managing partner, won the 2011 Women in Business Champion of the Year. Integrating her passion for local culture and arts as the catalyst for creating employment opportunities and leadership for Guam's women, Guzman has grown the business to now include 45 skilled employees. She has included woman artists, cultural practitioners, and community leaders in supporting the "We Are Guahan" and "Hafa Adai Pledge" programs for the Guam Visitors Bureau. **(BoG)**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Seated front: Reanna Cruz, Bank of Guam, 2011 Financial Services Champion of the Year; Vicente D. Ada, Ada's Mortuary, 2011 Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Small Business of the Year; Monica O. Guzman, Galaide Group, 2011 Women in Business Champion of the Year. Standing: Bank of Guam officers Kebrina Duenas, Esther Reyes, Maria Cooper-Nurse, Joyce Miyashita, Mike Naholowaa, Jackie Marati, Lou Leon Guerrero, Josephine Mariano, Amoretta Carlson, Patricia Salas, and Keven Camacho.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

FAA fires 2 controllers for sleeping on job

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Federal Aviation Administration says it has fired air traffic controllers in Miami and Knoxville, Tenn., for sleeping on the job. FAA announced the firings in a statement late Wednesday. The agency has said the controller in Miami was found sleeping around 5 a.m. Saturday at a regional radar facility that handles high altitude air traffic for portions of Florida, the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea. A preliminary review of air traffic tapes indicated he did not miss any calls from aircraft and there was no impact on flight operations.

NY to build solar power plants on capped landfills

NEW YORK (AP)—New York City plans to build solar power plants on capped landfills and launch a loan program to help property owners pay for green energy efficiency upgrades. The initiatives are part of an update to the city's 4-year-old PlaNYC environmental road map. Mayor Michael Bloomberg plans to announce the update Thursday. His office released details Wednesday night. The plan was launched Earth Day 2007. It aims to reduce the city's greenhouse gas emissions 30 percent by 2030. The city says emissions already have dropped 13 percent from 2005 levels.

Nation

Prosecutions turn online poker into a shaky bet

LAS VEGAS (AP)—America's multibillion-dollar run at the online poker tables has been interrupted by what could be a killer hand: federal prosecutions of the three biggest websites.

The government has blocked U.S. gamblers from logging on to the offshore sites, which are accused of tricking and bribing banks into processing billions of dollars in illegal profits. Now gamblers who dreamed of enormous prizes in Las Vegas, or even used online poker to make a living, can't access online bankrolls that in some cases reach six figures.

Some predict the American online poker industry, estimated to be worth up to \$6 billion, may fold under the weight of the investigations as it threatens amateur and professional players, televised tournaments and the marketing machine that helped Texas Hold 'em emerge from smoky casinos to become a dominant form of gambling on the Internet.

"It just cut the head off of everything," said Robert Fellner, a 27-year-old Las Vegas poker pro whose roughly \$250,000 bankroll on PokerStars was frozen after the indictments. "It's scary. It's much more scary."

Pay-to-play poker sites have been on shaky legal ground for years in the U.S., but the government hadn't prevented gamblers from playing on the three biggest sites—PokerStars, Full Tilt Poker and Absolute Poker—before last week's indictments of 11 executives and bank officials.

More than 75 company bank accounts in 14 countries have been frozen, and authorities are seeking \$3 billion in fines and restitution.

Poker players, meanwhile, now see an FBI notice where the websites once were. Some of them had treated their poker accounts like savings accounts, leaving significant portions of their net worth online and ready to wager anytime.

It appears that they will get that money back, though it's not clear when. The government said Wednesday it had reached agreements with PokerStars and Full Tilt Poker to restore the companies' domain names so they can return money to U.S. players. PokerStars said on its website that said it expected cashouts to be available to U.S. residents within several weeks.

Full Tilt said in a statement that the agreement was a good first step, but that it won't be able to give players refunds until the government gives up control of those funds. U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara of the Southern District of New York, however, said in a statement that "no individual player accounts were ever frozen or restrained."

Fellner, who won more than \$57,000 at a small World Series of Poker tournament in 2007, is more concerned about how he would make a living without online poker. He said cards have been his only source of income since he was 19, when he matched

his annual salary working at a dry cleaner by playing online poker for three months.

Since then, he said he's made more money each year and now plays for stakes that require \$5,000 to \$15,000 just to comfortably buy in and compete. He wouldn't specify how much he has earned so far this year.

Fellner relies on online poker because the Omaha game he prefers isn't normally offered at his stakes in the vast majority of Sin City casinos. He said he could support himself with savings while he waits for things to play out, but doesn't know what he'll do if he can't replace his income.

"I have friends on Wall Street—they could always get me an interview," he said.

Federal authorities consider the poker sites illegal and follow a 2006 law that made it a crime to process financial transactions related to illegal online gambling. But last week's indictments are the government's first attempt to hold poker site operators to that law.

Players and companies have long argued that the 2006 law didn't properly define illegal gambling or outlaw online poker, which many consider a game that involves more skill than luck.

Unlike games such as blackjack, players gamble against each other, not the casino. Casinos and Internet sites that host poker collect a small percentage of each pot for running the game.



ACROSS THE NATION

Dad of 3 kids killed in NY river: Don't blame me

SPRING VALLEY, N.Y. (AP)—The father of three children who died along with their mother when she drove her minivan into the Hudson River said he is not directly responsible for the tragedy but wishes he could change parts of his past. Jean Pierre broke his public silence Wednesday, eight days after Lashanda Armstrong loaded her children into the van and drove down a boat ramp into the river in Newburgh, 60 miles north of New York City. Police say Armstrong had been involved in a domestic incident at her apartment minutes earlier, and her friends say she was distraught that day. Pierre doesn't face any charges. "I have been inaccurately portrayed as being directly responsible for the tragedy," Pierre said in a prepared statement released through a lawyer. "If I could, I would have changed some things in my past."

Tyler Clementi, who in death started a national conversation on the perils of bullying. Ravi had already faced invasion of privacy charges along with another Rutgers student, Molly Wei. It took prosecutors months to present their case to a grand jury alleging that Ravi targeted Clementi because of his sexual orientation and tried to broadcast the encounter online to intimidate his roommate.

Sender of offensive Obama email calls it satire

FULLERTON, Calif. (AP)—An Orange County GOP official who sent an email depicting President Barack Obama as a chimpanzee said Wednesday she considered the email political satire—not racist—and would not step down, even as local party leaders called for her resignation and launched an ethics investigation. Speaking publicly for the first time outside her suburban ranch-style home, Marilyn Davenport read from a written apology she first issued two days ago and said her constituents were urging her not to resign her position on the Republican Party's Orange County Central Committee. The press conference came as Obama arrived in San Francisco for a three-day visit that will also bring the president to Los Angeles on Thursday for a fundraising event. Shortly after her remarks, the California State NAACP demanded that she apologize to Obama and asked GOP officials to begin recall procedures against her.

Roommate charged with hate crime in NJ webcam case

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—A former Rutgers University freshman who prosecutors said used a webcam to spy on his roommate's same-sex encounter was charged Wednesday with a hate crime and accused of deleting tweets and texts to cover up his tracks. Dharun Ravi, 19, was indicted in Middlesex County on 15 counts including bias intimidation and invasion of privacy in events that predated the suicide of 18-year-old

Asia

Doctor warns Japan nuke workers are at their limit

FUKUSHIMA, Japan (AP)—Workers battling the crisis at Japan's stricken nuclear plant suffer from insomnia, show signs of dehydration and high blood pressure and are at risk of developing depression or heart trouble, a doctor who met with them said Wednesday.

The crews have been fighting to get the radiation-spewing Fukushima Dai-ichi plant under control since it was crippled by the March 11 earthquake and tsunami that devastated northeastern Japan.

"The conditions at the plant remain harsh," epidemiologist Takeshi Tanigawa told The Associated Press. "I am afraid that if this continues we will see a growing risk of health problems."

■■■
TOKYO (AP)—New data from Japan's National Police Agency shows that two-thirds of the victims identified so far in last month's tsunami were elderly—and most of them drowned.

The agency said in a release this week that 65 percent of the 11,108 confirmed fatalities of known age were 60 or older.

Another 1,899 victims were

of unknown age.

With another 14,000 people still missing, the March 11 disaster is believed to have killed 27,000.

The police agency also reported that nearly 93 percent of the victims had drowned. Others perished in fires, were crushed to death or died from other causes.

The earthquake and tsunami hit the rural, northeastern coast where there were higher concentrations of elderly residents.

■■■
Tanigawa, the Public Health Department chairman at Ehime University's medical school, said he met and spoke with 80 of the workers over four days when he was allowed into another nearby nuclear plant where many of them take their breaks. He said he was not able to carry out full physical exams on the workers before leaving Tuesday because of time constraints.

Tokyo Electric Power Co, the plant operator, said 245 workers from the company and affiliated companies were stationed at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant Wednesday. Soldiers, firefight-

ers and police officers also were at the site.

The nuclear workers have been toiling around the clock to stabilize the plant. Tanigawa said they get little rest, no baths or fresh food and are under the constant threat of exposure to radiation, which remains so high in many places that robots are being used to take measurements.

In a telephone interview, Tanigawa said the work conditions don't meet the basic rights guaranteed workers by Japan's constitution. During their breaks at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant, they often sleep on the floor of a gymnasium, "wrapped only in blankets and with no privacy," he said.

Photographs of the gymnasium show workers in white radiation protection suits sitting on gold metallic mats laid in tight rows on the floor. Boxes of supplies are stacked nearby.

"Because they sleep so close to each other, snoring is a big problem," he said. "Normally, that might sound funny, but in this case it is denying people sleep and that can lead to bad performance on the job."

US accuses Pakistan of links to militant faction

ISLAMABAD (AP)—The top U.S. military officer accused Pakistan's spy agency on Wednesday of links to a powerful militant faction fighting in Afghanistan, and said that relationship was at the "heart" of tensions between Islamabad and Washington.

The comments by Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, are a sign that the U.S. is not stepping down in a bruising dispute with Pakistan in recent months that has threatened their vital if often uneasy alliance in the campaign against militants.

Mullen, who is visiting Pakistan, made the comments to local Geo TV in an interview ahead of a meeting with Gen. Ashfaq Parvez Kayani. The two men reportedly enjoy a good relationship, but Mullen said he would bring up the issue of the militant Haqqani network with him in talks about tensions between the two countries.

"Where I am not soft is on the heart of that discussion which is the Haqqani network very spe-

cifically," he said. "The Haqqani network very specifically facilitates and supports the Taliban who move in to Afghanistan to kill Americans."

"The ISI has a long-standing relationship with the Haqqani network, that doesn't mean everybody in the ISI but it's there ... I believe over time that has got to change," he said.

A spokesman for the spy agency, known by its acronym ISI, declined comment.

It has previously denied U.S. accusations, typically by anonymous officials in Washington, that it supports the Haqqani network and other Afghan Taliban factions.

Tensions between the ISI and the CIA spiked this year after American CIA contractor Raymond Davis shot and killed two Pakistanis he said were trying to rob him. The incident angered and embarrassed the government and the ISI, which complained the CIA was running covert operations in the country.

A day after Davis was released from jail after compensation was paid to the families of his victims, an American missile strike killed scores of people close to the Afghan border, prompting Gen. Kayani to make a rare public condemnation of the tactic, which Pakistan's army had previously kept quiet about.

NATO and US officials say the Haqqani network is based in northwest Pakistan and is responsible for many of the attacks in Afghanistan. Elements of the Pakistani security establishment are widely believed to tolerate or support the group because they see it as a future safeguard for their interests in Afghanistan once the Americans withdraw.

Pakistan has launched army offensives against militants in the northwest, many of whom also carry out bloody bombings inside Pakistan. But Islamabad says its forces are too stretched to allow it to move into North Waziristan, where the Haqqani network is based.

sprouts in the city's markets, it said.

Rioters set fire to Australian detention center

SYDNEY (AP)—Rioters at an Australian immigration detention center have set fire to several buildings, climbed onto rooftops and hurled tiles at officials who are scrambling to bring the protest to an end. Immigration officials say up to 100 detainees at Sydney's Villawood Detention Center were involved in the riots that began Wednesday night. Nine buildings were gutted by fire. Firefighters brought the blaze under control early Thursday and no one was injured. Seven detainees remained on the roof of one of the complex's buildings on Thursday.

World

Two Western photojournalists killed in Libya

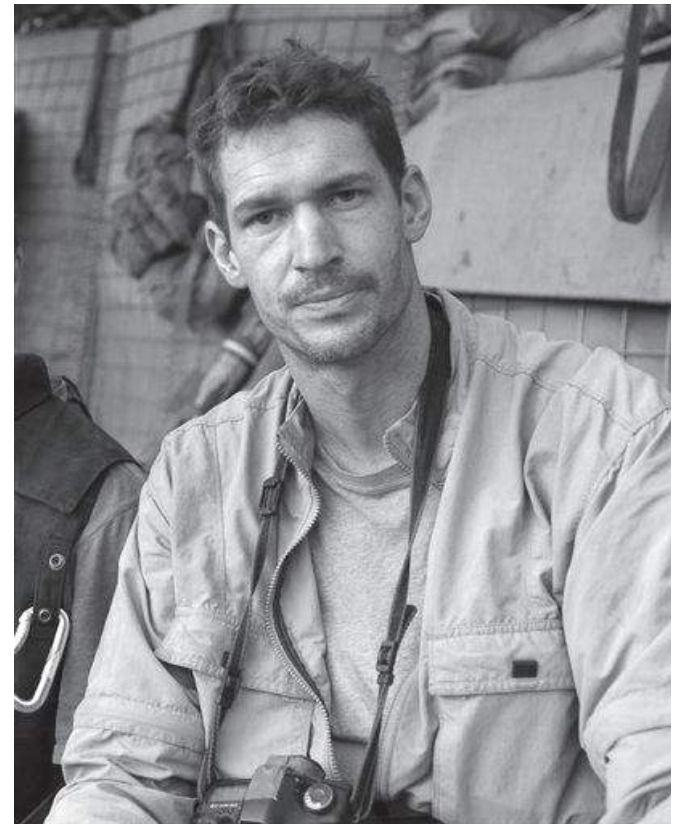
MISRATA, Libya (AP)—Two Western photojournalists including an Oscar-nominated film director were killed Wednesday in the besieged city of Misrata while covering battles between rebels and Libyan government forces. Two others working alongside them were wounded.

British-born Tim Hetherington, co-director of the documentary "Restrepo" about U.S. soldiers on an outpost in Afghanistan, was killed inside the only rebel-held city in western Libya, said his U.S.-based publicist, Johanna Ramos Boyer. The city has come under weeks of relentless shelling by government troops.

Hetherington tweeted Tuesday: "In besieged Libyan city of Misrata. Indiscriminate shelling by Qaddafi forces. No sign of NATO."

"Tim was in Libya to continue his ongoing multimedia project to highlight humanitarian issues during time of war and conflict," Hetherington's family said in a statement. "He will be forever missed."

Chris Hondros, a New York-based photographer for Getty Images, was also killed.



AP
In this 2007 file publicity image released by Outpost Films, photographer Tim Hetherington, is shown at the Restrepo outpost in the Korengal Valley, Afghanistan, during the filming of their documentary "Restrepo".

"He has an intimacy in his work," said Swayne Hall, a longtime friend who works as a photo editor with The Associated Press. "Some people will

use a long lens so they don't have to get up close. But Chris will get up close, he's just not afraid to be with whatever he's photographing."

Ivorian liberation forces turn guns on each other

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP)—Ivory Coast's new army turned its guns Tuesday on a former ally who helped liberate Abidjan and install the democratically elected president, military sources said of a major setback as the country was beginning to return to normal.

Residents said heavy machine-gun fire rocked the working-class suburb of Abo-bo about 12 p.m. EDT (1700 GMT) Wednesday around renegade warlord Ibrahim "IB"

Coulibaly's headquarters. Residents scattered and ran to lock themselves into their homes. Coulibaly orchestrated two failed coup attempts in 1999 and 2002 before starting a rebellion.

Four military sources from both sides confirmed that the new army of former rebels led by Prime Minister and Defense Minister Guillaume Soro attacked Coulibaly's headquarters but were met with fierce fighting that lasted more than

an hour.

"We drove them back all the way to their base at the mayor's office," Capt. Felix Anoble of Coulibaly's Invisible Commando told The Associated Press.

Anoble named three commanders under Soro's forces as leading the attack, including fighters for Gen. Issiaka Wattao.

Wattao earlier in the day denied that there had been infighting among pro-Ouatara forces.

WORLD BRIEFS

Thousands protest in Syria, brushing off reforms

BEIRUT (AP)—Thousands of students held demonstrations Wednesday against Syria's authoritarian regime, brushing off President Bashar Assad's sweeping declarations of reform as the country's growing protest movement vowed to stage the biggest rallies to date on Friday. The monthlong uprising in Syria has posed the biggest challenge to the 40-year ruling dynasty of President Bashar Assad and his father before him. On Tuesday, Syria did away with 50 years of emergency rule—but emboldened and defiant crowds accused Assad of simply trying to buy time while he clings to power. "We are preparing for a huge demonstration on Friday," said an activist in the southern city of Daraa, where anti-government protests first erupted last month and later spread nationwide.

Mexico police find 26 bodies in northern Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Investigators found 26 badly decomposed bodies at a vacant lot in the northern Mexico state of Durango on Wednesday and said they were looking for more. The grisly Holy Week discovery came just days after police found 10 complete bodies, three headless bodies

and four severed heads in a pit in Durango, a state that has become a battleground between the Zetas and Sinaloa drug cartels. Acting on information that there were skeletal remains at the lot, state and federal authorities launched a joint operation to search the site in the state capital, also known as Durango.

Raul Castro: Be patient for generational change

HAVANA (AP)—Raul Castro has begged patience from those seeking a generational change in Cuba, saying the country still lacks young leaders with the experience to take the revolution forward 52 years after he and his brother came to power. But observers say that the Castros have only themselves to blame, and that a history of cutting the legs out from under promising politicians has marked their rule almost from its inception. "The lack of confidence Raul feels in young apparatchiks is based on the fact he doesn't understand their impatience or the speed at which they want to accelerate the process (of economic and political change)," said Eduardo Bueno, a professor of international relations at Mexico's Iberoamerican University. "The founding generation is extremely closed, and this ethic has served to discredit young leaders."

ASIAN BRIEFS

Tainted bean sprouts latest food scare in China

BEIJING (AP)—In the latest food scare to hit China, authorities in a northeastern city have found bean sprouts tainted with banned food additives to make the vegetables grow faster and look shinier, state media said Wednesday. The Legal Daily newspaper said in an online report that police in Shenyang had seized 40 tons of bean sprouts treated with the chemical compounds sodium nitrite and urea, as well as antibiotics and a plant hormone called 6-benzyladenine. Police arrested 12 people in connection with the seizure from six distribution centers and other locations around the city over three days last week. The haul amounted to nearly one-third of all the bean

Science & Technology

Library e-books coming to Kindle

NEW YORK (AP)—Owners of the Kindle from Amazon.com will be able to download e-books from 11,000 U.S. libraries later this year, the company said Wednesday.

Most U.S. libraries already provide e-books, which work with nearly all e-readers except the Kindle. They're also accessible on many smartphones and tablets like the iPad.

Amazon.com Inc. says it's working with OverDrive Inc., which runs e-book systems for public libraries, to make the system compatible with the Kindle.

According to OverDrive, Kindle e-books will have the same lending terms as existing library e-books. Most libraries lend their books out for three weeks at a time. The e-books on Kindle will no longer open after that period of time.

Libraries have a limited number of "copies" of each e-book, so borrowers sometimes must wait for popular titles.

OverDrive said borrowers will browse for titles on PCs or phones, and can then chose to have them delivered to a Kindle or Amazon's Kindle applications for other devices, including phones and PCs.

On iPhones and Android phones, borrowers can browse for books and download them directly today.

Shares of Amazon.com Inc., which is based on Seattle, increased \$5.05, or 2.8 percent, to close Wednesday at \$183.87.

Building a dream computer-based music system

By DON LINDICH
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q. I am interested in putting together a system with excellent sound that can be controlled through a computer. I have several thousand CDs and am thinking of importing them all into iTunes using a couple of large hard drives for storage. My fantasy is to have a system with the Ohm speakers you recommend, controlled at my Barcalounger by an iPad. I see myself at midnight, scrolling through my albums, choosing music appropriate to my mood, sipping a cognac, staring pensively into the darkness, being seduced by the music, and thinking that life is good.

Can a system costing \$5,000-\$7,000 (not counting computer hardware) be put together

where the music on the hard drives can be controlled remotely and played on a very high-quality stereo system? And if so, what do you recommend? I thought you might find the idea intriguing and could assist other music lovers find a similar nirvana.—J.B., Maple Grove, Minn.

A. This is easier than you think and similarly minded readers can scale down the cost with more affordable audio gear. Some of you may already have everything you need, so read on!

For the computer I recommend an iMac because they have an optical digital audio output. Use iTunes to import and play the music, using AIFF or Apple Lossless Compression. This will retain 100 percent of the sound quality. There is a free app for iPad or iPhone called Remote that

controls iTunes on your computer via your WiFi network. Put it all together and you have a music server that can be controlled with your iPad or iPhone.

Use an optical digital audio cable to connect the computer to an audiophile quality digital processor/preamp. I'd buy a used one since all you need is a unit that supports two-channel stereo through an optical digital audio input. Any Dolby Digital Processor does that, and high-end models have depreciated like rocks as HDMI and the new lossless audio formats have made them obsolete for home theater. A Proceed AVP processor/preamp sold for \$4,600 when new but today sells for \$500 at most. The computer and the Proceed AVP will deliver an audiophile-quality signal to your amplifier.

Send photos from computer to cellphone

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I am trying to send pictures from my Windows XP desktop PC to my son's Verizon Wireless cellphone. Any text messages that I send make it, but none of the pictures do, even though he subscribes to picture messaging. Can you help me make this work?—Chuck Fradel-la, Monticello, Minn.

ANSWER: Send an e-mail, with the photo attached, to your son's phone number @vzwpx.com. For example, if your son's phone number were 000-000-0000, you'd send the e-mail to 0000000000@vzwpx.com. To send photos to non-Verizon phones, see the e-mail list at tinyurl.com/dh4ugu.

Web page, I get a bunch of garbage. For example, I wanted to print instructions from tinyurl.com/ksmedu, but in the resulting printed page only one word was recognizable, "Symantec." I've used four different Web browsers, and all produce the same results. What's the problem?—Dale Schunke, Tucson, Ariz.

A: Because you're printing Chinese language characters directly from a Web page, you could be encountering a glitch in the Norton antivirus software, which is made by Symantec. The company says it's working to resolve a problem related to recognizing Chinese language characters. See tinyurl.com/3egfrfo.

Why does your text file print correctly? My guess is that when you cut and paste the Web page material into a text file on your PC, you've bypassed the Symantec software and avoided the problem.

But, just in case it's a printer-related problem, try upgrading your printer's software drivers

at tinyurl.com/4ybatod.

Q: When I noticed that my computer seemed to be running slower, I found a way to speed it up by limiting the number of images that would be downloaded in my e-mail from Windows Live Mail. Now I have "X"s where the images used to be, and find it more exasperating than the slower speeds I had before. Unfortunately, I don't know how to change it back; what should I do?—Frank Mallalieu, Tucson, Ariz.

A: Here's how to change the settings in Windows Live Mail so that images will download in your e-mails all the time, or just when you want to see them. See tinyurl.com/5s5m5cj and click the heading called "to automatically download all images." Alternatively, you can elect to see images in just the e-mail you're viewing. Click the heading called "to view blocked images in an e-mail message."

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Cat comes down from tree in SC after 9 days
ANDERSON, S.C. (AP)—Buster has finally come down from a 150-foot pine tree in northwestern South Carolina after nine days, but the cat's owners aren't happy with local officials. Linda Megretto told the Anderson Independent-Mail she expected to find the cat dead Monday, but her husband climbed a 40-foot ladder and coaxed the cat down. Megretto says Buster stayed in the tree through two storms after becoming afraid when a neighbor chased the cat from his barking dog. She says she called the Humane

Society, fire department, police and animal control and got no help. Sheriff's spokesman Chad McBride says there's no record she called. Fire Chief Billy Gibson says firefighters no longer respond to such calls because of liability issues. Gibson says putting food at the base of a tree usually works.

Belly dancing sinks NYC woman's disability claim
NEW YORK (AP)—A New York City woman who was getting \$850 a month in alimony because she was supposedly disabled and unable to work had her payments

slashed after her ex-husband spotted online photos of her belly dancing. Brian McGurk went to court after discovering a blog that showed his 43-year-old ex-wife dancing at a gallery. In other Internet postings, she wrote about dancing vigorously for several hours every day. Dorothy McGurk told the court that the dancing was physical therapy for injuries she suffered in a car accident in the mid-1990s. A county judge didn't buy it—and reduced her payments to \$400 per month. The judge also ordered her to pay her ex-husband's legal fees and 60 percent from the sale of their home.

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Madea's Big Happy Family

Friday	4:10	7:10	9:50
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10
Mon thru Thurs	4:10	7:10	

Tyler Perry, Loretta Devine
Comedy drama • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

When her five grown-up children fail to answer her call for a family gathering, exasperated mother Shirley calls on outspoken force of nature Madea to see that everyone comes together to discuss some rather important issues in this filmed stage play written and directed by Tyler Perry. With everyone finally assembled thanks to Madea's tenacity, Shirley addresses some important family secrets, reveals that she's in the midst of a financial crisis, and engages her sons and daughters in a serious talk about drugs.

Beastly

Friday	4:30	7:30	9:55
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30
Mon thru Thurs	4:30	7:30	

Alex Pettyfer, Vanessa Hudgens
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

A curse transforms a handsome and arrogant young man into everything he detests in this contemporary retelling of Beauty and the Beast. Wealthy Kyle Kingdon (Alex Pettyfer) has everything a teenager could want in life, but he still gets off on humiliating the weaker and less attractive. When Kyle invites his misfit classmate Kendra (Mary-Kate Olsen) to an environmental rally at their school, she questions his motivations but reluctantly accepts. Later, Kyle blows Kendra off, prompting the spurned goth girl to cast a dark spell on the swaggering egotist.

Arthur

Friday	4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00
Mon thru Thurs	4:00	7:00	

Russell Brand, Jennifer Garner
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Arthur is a sweet but wildly irresponsible playboy whose millions have left him lonely and with no motivation in life. On the threshold of an arranged marriage with a simpering socialite whom he does not love, Arthur meets the spunky, blue-collar waitress Linda Marolla, and falls head over heels. However, just as he begins to pursue a relationship with Linda, his father and iron-willed grandmother threaten to pull the plug on his huge inheritance if he doesn't honor his position in life and go through with his marriage.

Rio

Friday	4:20	7:20	9:35
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:35
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20
Mon thru Thurs	4:20	7:20	

Anne Hathaway, will.i.am
Children's/Family • Rated G

Scream 4

Friday	4:25	7:25	9:40
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25
Mon thru Thurs	4:25	7:25	

Neve Campbell, David Arquette
Horror • Rated R

Hanna

Friday	4:15	7:15	10:00
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15
Mon thru Thurs	4:15	7:15	

Saoirse Ronan, Cate Blanchett
Thriller • Rated PG 13

Hop

Friday	4:05	7:05	9:45
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05
Mon thru Thurs	4:05	7:05	

James Marsden, Russell Brand
Children's/Family • Rated PG

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Life & Style

Got prom dibs? Girls use Facebook to claim dress

BY SAMANTHA CRITCHELL
AP FASHION WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Teenage girls largely live in a lookalike culture, wearing the same styles that they got in the same stores as their friends. On prom night, though, the idea is to stand out, making sure no one arrives to the big dance in the same outfit.

To ensure their uniqueness—after they've shopped in far-away malls and tapped into store registries—girls are using social media to claim dibs on their dresses.

A photo of Ashley McGowan's floor-length black gown is on the prom Facebook page for her school in suburban Somers, New York. She's relieved that only one other classmate has posted a black frock.

"There's an unwritten rule: the moment you buy it, you post it so it's 'your dress,'" explains McGowan.

A fashion advice website, Fashism.com, has even launched a Facebook-based registry called "Got Dibs" that allows users to track who's wearing what to which high school event, and get feedback on their outfit before they wear it.

Amy Aitable, senior vice president of marketing for Lord & Taylor, which is partnering with Fashism.com on Got Dibs, says the project is a way to give girls an insurance policy that they'll have something special, while making sure they won't be second-guessing their outfit at the last minute.

Here's how Got Dibs works: Girls can snap photos of themselves with the tags still on the dress and get instant advice on

what shoes to wear, if the hemline is right or if the silhouette is flattering.

The opinions of peers, whether they are best friends or online "friends" from around the country, are key to the tech-savvy, fashion-loving consumer, says Ashley Granata, Fashism.com's co-founder and chief marketing officer.

But for prom-goers, it's the claim on a dress that matters most, she adds.

"When I was a junior, a freshman came to my prom in the same dress. I was mortified," Granata recalls. "It was a pink satin, princess cut with scalloped neckline. I thought it was interesting and beautiful. I was known to have individual sense of style—and then this trendy girl shows up in the same thing. Now I can say it's really funny, but I was really upset about it."

Hollywood stars make a strong impression by owning their looks, and teenage girls want to do the same, says Jane Keltner de Valle, fashion news director of Teen Vogue. They mimic celebrities with elaborate fashion fantasies and hair and makeup plans, but they also play the part of stylist by scouring magazines and websites for months to get ideas, then try to secure exclusivity.

All the preparation fuels anticipation of the prom, which girls start thinking about months in advance. They build it up—with help from movies, TV, fashion magazines and maybe even mom—as their big red-carpet moment.

"Girls feel tremendous pressure to get it right," says Keltner de Valle. "They don't want to feel like a copy of anyone else, and she



also doesn't want to be compared to anyone else. They don't want to wake up to the Facebook comparison of: 'Who wore it best?'"

Staking an early claim on a dress may help girls breathe easier. And then it's the girl who doesn't follow these new etiquette rules who risks rebuke, Keltner de Valle says.

Of course, she adds, it shouldn't be that way: Girls should be celebrating who they are at the prom and not make it all about "the dress," but, for better or worse, that is part of the tradition.

McGowan, a senior, says she has put a lot of thought into her dress and she's sure she doesn't want it to be a "typical prom dress."

"I want to look different than all my friends," she says, and she thinks she will be in a halter-

This product image courtesy of Lord & Taylor shows, from left to right, a model wearing a dress by A.B.S. by Allen Schwartz and a model wearing a dress by Aidan Mattox. Teenage girls largely live in a lookalike culture, wearing the same styles that they got in the same stores as their friends. On prom night, though, the idea is to stand out on their own, making sure no one arrives to the big dance in the same dress.

'American Idol' singers take on 21st century songs

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"American Idol" finalist Casey Abrams ended his song with a smooch.

The eccentric 20-year-old film camp counselor of Idyllwild, Calif., planted a peck on "Idol" judge Jennifer Lopez after delivering a rockin' rendition of Maroon 5's "Harder to Breathe" during the Fox talent competition's evening of 21st century songs Wednesday. Lopez proclaimed that she loved Abrams' performance—and his "soft lips" weren't bad either.

"You did what I've been trying to do for four months," exclaimed Steven Tyler, who later added some expletives.

Scotty McCreery, the 17-year-old high school student of Garner, N.C., kicked off the show with an eyebrow-raising take

on LeAnn Rimes' version of "Swingin'." Tyler wished that the deep-voiced crooner "boot-scooted" more during his routine, while Randy Jackson dubbed his song choice as "safe." Lopez warned McCreery that it's time "to pull out the big guns."

"We were expecting more from Scotty," scolded J.Lo.

Lauren Alania, the 16-year-old country songstress of Rossville, Ga., and Jacob Lusk, the 23-year-old power vocalist of Compton, Calif., were also prodded to push themselves further after taking on Sara Evans' "Born to Fly" and Luther Vandross' "Dance With My Father." Lusk pulled out his in-ear monitor while singing, and later complained of technical difficulties.

"Vocally, it was good, but it didn't make me jump up and

down," Jackson told Lusk.

Haley Reinhart, the growling 20-year-old singer of Wheeling, Ill., received a lukewarm reception for diving into Adele's "Rolling in the Deep." Jackson said it was "a perfect direction" for Reinhart, but Tyler noted it was a "little slow at the start." Stefano Langone, the 21-year-old crooner from Kent, Wash., had better luck with Ne-Yo's "Closer."

"Speaking for the girls in the audience, I thought it was very, very good," Lopez told a smiling Langone.

James Durbin once again marched onto the "Idol" stage with the night's most the theatrical performance. The 22-year-old rocker from Santa Cruz, Calif., donned an outlandish military-inspired ensemble and was accompanied by four

top, floor-length black dress that she describes as "elegant."

She shopped for the dress on her own, and asked the salesperson at an independent boutique to direct her to the racks intended for other more sophisticated formal occasions.

Katharine Imrie, a high school senior in Wausau, Wisconsin, is still looking for her dress; she's thinking purple or red to help her stand out from the crowd.

The prom wardrobe is "the buzz around school right now," she says. Some of her friends have traveled about two hours away to Madison so they'd be able to pick from more stores offering a wider variety of dresses. "The stores in town here have a lot of the same things," Imrie says.

The typical girl tries on 30 dresses before making a decision, says Lord & Taylor's Aitable. It's not price nor style that ends up driving the purchase, she observes, it's the confidence that comes with a particular dress.

McGowan says a unique look on prom night will help leave a lasting impression on friends and classmates. "The prom is your last big hurrah of high school," she said. "You want people to remember you at this moment of you looking your best."

marching drummers for Muse's "Uprising." Jackson and Lopez announced it would be the best performance of the evening.

"We just love that you're out of your mind beautifully so," affirmed Tyler.

Seemingly, as reminder of why they were voted off the show, the past six eliminated contestants—Karen Rodriguez, 21, New York; Ashthon Jones, 24, Nashville, Tenn.; Naima Adedapo, 26, Milwaukee; Thia Megia, 16, Mountain House, Calif.; Pia Toscano, 22, Howard Beach, N.Y.; and Paul McDonauld, 26, Nashville, Tenn.—also returned for a performance of Pink's "So What."

"We miss this group," screamed Jackson. "Come back!"

One of the top seven finalists will join them Thursday.

Poland to let da Vinci work hit the road

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—It's finally been decided: Poland's most precious painting, "Lady with an Ermine" by Leonardo da Vinci, will be allowed to travel to Spain, Germany and Britain.

Wednesday's decision came after almost a year of discussion by art experts and Poland's Culture Ministry about whether the 15th-century masterpiece should be allowed to leave the country.

Last week, art conservationists warned the Renaissance masterpiece of a graceful female figure could be damaged

in transit. The chief expert at the National Museum in Krakow, Janusz Czop, said at the time that taking it on foreign trips would expose it to "great risk."

But Deputy Culture Minister Piotr Zuchowski said Wednesday the government decided the masterpiece can travel. It will now be shown at three foreign sites for three months each: Madrid's Palacio Real starting in May, Berlin's Gemaeldegalerie, starting in August and London's National Gallery, starting in November.

In February it will return to Krakow, where it has been for more than 100 years, and where it will be submitted to detailed examination of its condition. It will remain in Krakow at least until 2022.

"With this decision, we are taking joint responsibility for the future of this work of art," Zuchowski said.


The owners of the painting, a private family foundation that has been lobbying for it to be put on temporary display outside the country, expressed satisfaction with the ministry's

decision.

"We are happy that reason prevailed," said Maria Osterwa-Czekaj, deputy head of the Princes Czartoryski Foundation.

One of only four existing female portraits by Leonardo, the oil painting shows a young woman in three-quarter profile wearing a sumptuous low-cut red and blue dress as she holds a white ermine. Historians believe the subject was Cecilia Gallerani, the mistress of the Duke of Milan, Ludovico Sforza, when she was 16 or 17. Da Vinci painted it around the year 1490.

1ST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY



†**MARIA HOCOG BORJA**
Better known as
"Kitalang or Maria Dasu"

This is to inform all our friends and relatives that our Beloved †Maria Hocog Borja will be celebrating her 1st Year Death Anniversary on Monday, April 25th thru Tuesday, May 3rd, 2011. The Holy Mass will be offered daily at San Jose Catholic Church in Oleai-Saipan every 6:00 a.m. from Monday to Saturday and on Sunday at 7:30 & 9:00 a.m. On the last day Tuesday, May 3rd, Mass will be said at 6:00 a.m. and breakfast will follow after in the parish social hall.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Un Dangkulo Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase genin I Familia

Lindsay Lohan to play Junior Gotti's wife

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lindsay Lohan is joining the big screen Gotti family as the wife of John Gotti Jr. in a biopic of one of New York's most infamous families.

She called her casting in "Gotti: Three Generations" a huge honor and told The Associated Press on Wednesday that the film is an opportunity to prove herself as an actress again.

"I'm really excited to be back on set and clear up all the misinterpretations about me and show this is what I love to do," Lohan said.

John Travolta has been cast to play John Gotti Sr., the mob family's patriarch who had a flair for style and a knack for avoiding convictions that earned him the name "Teflon Don." Joe Pesci will play one of his deputies.

The younger Gotti has insisted he left the mob life in the 1990s, but has been unsuccessfully tried four times on racketeering charges.

He sold the rights to his life story to Fiore Films, which is developing the film focusing on Junior Gotti's relationship with his father. It will be shot in New York and is set for a 2012 release.

Lohan made a surprise appearance at a press conference last week and was expected to be in the running to play the el-



AP
In this April 12, 2011 file photo, Victoria Gotti, author and daughter of the late John Gotti, left, actor John Travolta, John Gotti Jr. and actress Lindsay Lohan pose during a news conference for the film "Gotti: Three Generations", based on the life of John Gotti in New York.

der Gotti's daughter, Victoria. By Wednesday discussions for Lohan playing that role had ended, but the actress successfully lobbied to remain on the project.

"I think it's such an iconic story," Lohan told the AP. "I think it's a great story to be told. I'm honored to be working with John Travolta and Joe Pesci."

Lohan's role as Kim Gotti has parallels to her own life, she said.

"You don't get to see the heart behind the story and the real side of people," she said of most mob movies, which she said veer toward shoot-'em-up fare. "I can relate to that because I think that I've been portrayed in a certain light. I just want to do my best to show what their family really went through."

Like the Gotti family, Lohan is no stranger to criminal troubles.

She faces a felony grand theft case in Los Angeles after a jewelry store accused her of stealing a \$2,500 necklace, and is due in court for a hearing on Friday.

She has rejected two plea deals in that case with guaranteed jail time, and could be incarcerated for violating her probation on a 2007 drunken driving case.

She said her legal troubles won't be a distraction.

Injured Broadway 'Spider-Man' actor to rejoin show

NEW YORK (AP)—An actor whose back was badly hurt when he tumbled from the stage at the Broadway musical "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark" has been cleared to return to the revamped show and hopes to be swinging over the audience again on opening night in June, a lead producer said Wednesday.

Christopher Tierney, who fell 35 feet into the orchestra pit in front of a shocked preview audience on Dec. 20, got permission



Tierney

from his doctor to rejoin rehearsals beginning Monday, producer Michael Cohl said.

"His back's fine. They've taken the bolts and the nuts and everything out," Cohl said in an interview.

Tierney, 31, suffered a fractured skull, a fractured shoulder blade, four broken ribs and three broken vertebrae in the tumble. He had to wear a back brace and had eight screws put in his back. His father had said from the family's Portsmouth, N.H., home he couldn't wait to resume performing.

Kathleen Turner play 'High' fails on Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—The play "High" starring Kathleen Turner has crashed.

Producers said Wednesday that the show, which opened Tuesday night, will close on Sunday, having failed to become a box office addition. When it closes, "High" will have played just 28 previews and eight regular performances.

"High," by playwright Matthew Lombardo, is a three-person play featuring Turner as a foul-mouthed nun trying to help a young meth addict. Turner had nurtured the play through out-of-town tryouts in Hartford, Conn.; Cincinnati; and St. Louis.

Reviews were mixed and the box office numbers were worse, with "High" taking in only \$91,000 in previews last week from a potential gross of \$536,000.

Ben Stiller behind NYC art auction for Haiti

NEW YORK (AP)—Ben Stiller is getting some of the biggest names in contemporary art to help Haitian children affected by last year's earthquake.

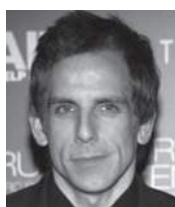
The actor and comedian announced Wednesday that he is partnering with New York art dealer David Zwirner on a benefit auction called "Artists for Haiti," scheduled for Sept. 22 at Christie's auction house.

Some of the artists who have already donated works include Chuck Close, Paul McCarthy, Jasper Johns, Dan Flavin, Jeff Koons and Hiroshi Sugimoto.

"Over a year after the massive quake in Haiti, there remains a huge need to rebuild and help the country," Stiller

said in a statement. "David and I are working to help raise funds so that the children of Haiti have an opportunity to receive the education they need to lead a better life and fulfill the potential of this vibrant and important culture."

Christie's said the proceeds will support nonprofit organizations already working in Haiti, including Architecture for Humanity, J/P Haitian Relief Organization, Partners in Health and Grameen Creative Lab.



Stiller

ish it: director Philip William McKinley, playwright Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa, musical consultant Paul Bogaev and sound designer Peter Hylenski.

"Spider-Man" represents Tierney's Broadway debut, and he vowed after he was injured that he would return. Besides doing the main Spider-Man aerial stunts, he also played the part of a super villain, a bully who torments Peter Parker and a dancer.

He had previously worked with the Houston Ballet, Ballet New England and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, danced in the national tour of Twyla Tharp's "Movin' Out" and appeared in the North American premiere of "Dirty Dancing" in Toronto.

Zwirner's gallery will preview the artworks prior to the sale, in early September.

The actor established the Stiller Foundation last year to help promote the education and well-being of Haitian children. It is currently rebuilding four earthquake-damaged schools in the Port-Au-Prince area. It also constructed permanent and temporary classroom structures after the January 2010 earthquake.

Stiller is currently appearing on Broadway in John Guare's black comedy, "The House of Blue Leaves."

He first announced the auction Wednesday on NBC's "Today" show.

Adulterous dad's TV bribe doesn't offer pretty picture

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My father is a state worker who has "furlough Fridays." My sister, "Dee," went home early from school last Friday because she wasn't feeling well and found him in bed with one of his co-workers. Mom was at work, so apparently Dad thought he was safe. If Mom ever found out, their marriage would be over. Dad is begging Dee not to tell.

Dee and I have been saving for a large HDTV for our bedroom. Dad is now offering to pay for it. He says he'll tell Mom he's helping us because we have been working so hard to save the money. Actually, he'd pay for the whole thing and let us keep our money.

Dee is all for it. She says we can use Dad's affair to get more from him in the future. I'm shocked and disappointed in my father, and while I don't want to see my parents' marriage destroyed, I don't feel right about letting him bribe us. What should I do?

CALIFORNIA GIRL

DEAR CALIFORNIA GIRL: Your father is a piece of work. That he would attempt to rope his daughters in as co-conspirators shows the extent of his lack of character. And if you didn't realize it, you wouldn't have written to me.

Please do not go along with your sister's plan to accept the payoff. It's extortion. If you keep the secret, there is nothing to prevent your father from continuing his adulterous affairs. As difficult as hearing about this from you may be to your mother, if she should find out what's been going on—and it ALWAYS comes out—and realize her daughters were aware of it, her pain will be magnified.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My fiance has a daughter in college. "Kimberly" emails her essays to her father, always saying, "I need you to spell-check, check grammar and fix everything. Then send it back to me."

As a teacher, I have told him this is unethical. His daughter is working for a grade and there are resources available at the university. She has no disability and time is not an issue.

When this happens my blood boils. Am I wrong? Or is it wrong of her to expect Daddy to fix her papers so she can get a good grade? He thinks I'm overreacting.

NOT FOOLED IN MICHIGAN

DEAR NOT FOOLED: Of course you're not wrong. As well-intended as your fiance may be, by correcting his daughter's assignments he's preventing her from learning skills she will need once she graduates. Warning: If you plan to marry this man, be prepared for a future filled with him solving one problem after another for her, because he's not going to change and neither will she. A college girl being this dependent on Daddy isn't healthy.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: How long after you are married can you take a honeymoon? My husband and I dream of going to Venice so we can kiss on the Bridge of Sighs. We've heard if you do that, you'll be in love forever.

We're saving our money, but won't be able to afford to go until after our first anniversary. Is there a rule that a honeymoon must be taken within the first year of marriage?

LIZA IN ALASKA

DEAR LIZA: There's no such rule that I know of. Because it's your first big trip together as man and wife, call it a "deferred honeymoon" (after all, that's what it is), and you need not apologize for doing so.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby – Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, : CIVIL ACTION
Plaintiff, : NO. 09-0514
-v- :

SUZETTE O. SASAMOTO :
and :
FELIX T. SASAMOTO, JR., :
Defendants. :

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 21, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 011 G 1508, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as more particularly on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 30, the original of which was recorded on May 11, 1994, as Document No. 94-1218, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.
Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, May 13, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 pm, at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.
Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.
DATED, this 12th day of April, 2011.

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH : CIVIL ACTION
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES : NO. 05-0382
CREDIT UNION, :
Plaintiff, :

-v- :
MARIANO S. NAPUTI, :
Defendant. :

SIXTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on November 3, 2006, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Lot No. 002 G 334, situated in Kagman II, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 08, the original of which was recorded May 14, 1990, as document No. 90-1905, at the Commonwealth recorder's Office, Saipan.
Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, May 13, 2011, at the hour of 1:30 pm, at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.
Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.
DATED, this 12th day of April, 2011.

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

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Minor wins doubles in Australia

By ROSELYN B. MONROY
roselyn_monroy@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

THEA Minor ended her campaign in the 2011 Goulburn Valley Junior Championships in Australia on a high note after capturing the doubles crown in the U18 division of the five-day tournament.

Minor teamed up with fellow Pacific Islands member Amanda Korimbi in the doubles event.

Team member Amanda Korimbi and Curtis-McDonald even won the doubles event.

Wednesday

By JAYVEE VALLEJERA
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com
EDITOR

WASHINGTON—The D.C.—The Weather Channel predicted a near-perfect day for Jan. 3, the day in which the new Congress will convene. It was a sunny day, with a high of 68 degrees and a low of 48. The fact, it was a bit of a surprise when the ongoing House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) was sworn in, as she was preparing to hand over the gavel to the new speaker, John Boehner (R-Ohio). Pelosi began her address at the 111th Congress on Jan. 3.

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Lakers grind past Hornets, even playoff series



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kobe Bryant barely made a ripple on offense for the Los Angeles Lakers. He was too busy ensuring Chris Paul didn't make another huge splash that could have put the Lakers in a cavernous playoff hole.

Andrew Bynum had 17 points and 11 rebounds, Lamar Odom scored 16 points, and the Lakers survived quiet offensive games from their two biggest stars to even their first-round playoff series with an 87-78 victory over the New Orleans Hornets in Game 2 on Wednesday night.

Ron Artest added 15 points as the two-time defending champions rebounded from a stunning nine-point loss in the series opener with Bryant leading an improved defensive effort against Paul, who still had 20 points and nine assists after shredding Los Angeles' defense in Game 1.

"We stayed in front of him for the most part," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. "He made some big plays for them ... but I think we did a better job being attentive to him, and that's as good as it gets right now."

The Lakers spent the past two days scheming ways to prevent a repeat of Paul's 33-point, 14-assist dissection of their defense in Game 1. Bryant's snarling intensity was obvious when he took his turn guarding Paul, jumping on him with full-court pressure and even battling him for inconsequential inbound passes midway through the game.

"We had a good rhythm today," Bryant said. "We found something we can hang our hats on in terms of the intensity and the aggression that we played with. Going up to New Orleans, I think that environment will bring it out."

Game 3 is Friday night in New Orleans.

With Bynum excelling in the low post and Odom leading strong bench play, the Lakers overcame the offensive inadequacies of their All-Stars. Bryant managed just 11 points, barely shooting the ball in the first half, and Pau Gasol had eight in his second straight poor game.

"It shows experience and maturity," said Odom, who combined with Bynum to make 16 of their 23 shots. "It shows how we've got better, how the team has grown. It was important for all of us to improve and make an impact."

Trevor Ariza scored 22 points for the Hornets, who committed 16 turnovers after making just three in Game 1. The seventh-seeded Hornets finally resembled a team missing top scorer David West, struggling for consistent offense for much of the game in front of an energized Staples Center crowd.

"Certainly it was their defense," New Orleans coach

Monty Williams said. "I thought they were more physical. There was a focus tonight to get up in the ball. They trapped Chris, and we didn't take advantage of it until the second half."

The Lakers didn't exactly stop Paul. The four-time All-Star still had nine points and five assists in the first half, yet Los Angeles managed to limit his playmaking effectiveness on the pick-and-roll plays that hurt them in the opener.

"They tried to shrink the court on me," said Paul, who hit buzzer-beating 3-pointers in the second and third quarters. "They didn't want me to wiggle and dance with the ball that much. It worked for them, to a certain extent."

Carl Landry scored 12 points, and Emeka Okafor had seven points while battling constant foul trouble that forced backup center Aaron Gray to play 23 minutes despite a sprained right ankle.

The second-seeded Lakers nursed a small lead throughout the second half largely thanks to Odom, who was in top form in his first game since winning the NBA's Sixth Man award on Tuesday. After Bynum scored 12 points in the first half, Odom drove the Lakers' offense down the stretch.

"Losing the first game, that put it right back on us," Bynum said. "When we have that sense, everybody goes out and plays a harder game. (But) our go-to guys are Kobe and Pau, and

Los Angeles Lakers center Andrew Bynum, center, puts up a shot as New Orleans Hornets forward Carl Landry, left, and center Emeka Okafor defend during the first half in Game 2 of a first-round NBA basketball playoff series, Wednesday, April 20, 2011, in Los Angeles.

AP



this team is doing a good job of stopping them right now."

Bryant managed just one field goal in the first half and only reached double figures on a dramatic dunk with 3:39 to play. Gasol floundered for the

second straight game against the smallish Hornets, making just 2 of 10 shots.

But the Lakers got a boost during a 14-2 second-quarter run from a bench that barely impacted Game 1, with backup

point guard Steve Blake returning from a weeklong bout of chicken pox to rack up five assists in 6 minutes.

After New Orleans committed an NBA playoff record-low three turnovers in Game 1, the

Hornets had that many in the first quarter alone, and 10 by halftime. Yet they trailed by just six points at halftime, and Paul's second buzzer-beater trimmed the Lakers' lead to seven points heading to the fourth quarter even though New Orleans managed just 15 points in the third.

"Obviously we got their attention in the first game, and their intensity was raised up a little bit more," said New Orleans' Jarrett Jack, who had six points. "It's going to be like that throughout the rest of the series."

Thunder 106, Nuggets 89

At Oklahoma City, Oklahoma City Thunder built a big first-half lead on the way to an easy victory over the Denver Nuggets on Wednesday, taking a 2-0 lead in their NBA first-round playoff series.

Kevin Durant scored 23 points and Russell Westbrook added 21 for the Thunder, who did not rely upon its All-Star duo as much as it did in Game 1, instead getting contributions from everyone to build a 26-point lead early in the second quarter.

Ty Lawson scored 20 points to lead Denver, while Nene and Raymond Felton added 16 points apiece.

Oklahoma City got a balanced performance, with James Harden providing 18 points and Serge Ibaka adding 12 points and 12 rebounds. Kendrick Perkins had 11 rebounds as the Thunder piled up a 41-19 edge on the boards by late in the third quarter.

Denver made a brief rally to get within 86-76 with 8:33 to play.

The series shifts to Denver on Saturday with Oklahoma City leading 2-0.

Spurs 93, Grizzlies 87

In San Antonio, the hosts beat Memphis to squared their series at 1-1.

Manu Ginobili scored 17 points in the All-Star's return after missing Game 1 with an elbow sprain, and wore a thick sleeve to protect his right elbow but played as physically as usual.

Tim Duncan had 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Spurs, and Hill and Richard Jefferson added 16 apiece.

Zach Randolph and Marc Gasol, who combined for 49 points in the opener, were far less dominant in Game 2. Randolph scored 11 points on 5-of-14 shooting and Gasol had 12 points, making just 2 of 9. Gasol had 17 rebounds.

Sam Young had 17 points for the Grizzlies, who opened the series with their first franchise playoff win. His 3-pointer with 14.9 seconds left made it 89-87 before George Hill sealed the win at the free throw line.

Game 3 is Saturday in Memphis.

MLB takes over operation of Los Angeles Dodgers

NEW YORK (AP)—Major League Baseball is taking the extraordinary step of assuming control of the Los Angeles Dodgers, a team increasingly paralyzed by its owners' bitter divorce.

Once among baseball's glamour franchises, the Dodgers have been consumed by infighting since Jamie McCourt filed for divorce after 30 years of marriage in October 2009, one week after her husband fired her as the team's chief executive. Frank McCourt accused Jamie of having an affair with her bodyguard-driver and performing poorly at work.

Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig told Frank McCourt on Wednesday he will appoint a MLB representative to oversee all aspects of the business and the day-to-day operations of the club. At the same time, Frank McCourt was preparing to sue MLB, a baseball executive familiar with the situation told The Associated Press, speaking on condition of anonymity because McCourt had not made any statements.

"I have taken this action because of my deep concerns regarding the finances and operations of the Dodgers and to protect the best interests of the

club," Selig said in a statement.

Seven hours after Selig made his announcement, Frank McCourt issued a statement expressing puzzlement.

"Major League Baseball sets strict financial guidelines, which all 30 teams must follow," McCourt said. "The Dodgers are in compliance with these guidelines. On this basis, it is hard to understand the commissioner's action today."

A person familiar with Selig's thinking said the commissioner may choose to force a sale. The person spoke to the AP on the condition of anonymity because Selig's statement did not mention that.

"I consider it a sad day for baseball and a sad day for the Dodgers," general manager Ned Colletti said.

Dodgers manager Don Mattingly had his 50th birthday Wednesday. He said he saw the news on television and then Colletti talked to the team.

"It's hard to imagine it would happen somewhere like the Dodgers, but there's crazy stuff going on everywhere. You're seeing monster major banks going down, so obviously it can happen," Mattingly said before the game against Atlanta at Dodger Stadium.

Baseball officials could not recall another instance in modern times when the commissioner seized control of a team from its owner. Before Tom Hicks sold the Texas Rangers last year, Selig appointed McHale to monitor the Rangers but technically left Hicks in charge of the franchise while McHale worked behind the scenes.

Even when suspending George Steinbrenner from the Yankees in 1990 and forcing Marge Schott to sell her controlling interest in the Cincinnati Reds in 1999, the commissioner's office allowed the owners to choose their successors as the controlling executive.

"This is one of the great franchises. It's hard to imagine a mess like this ever having happened," former Commissioner Fay Vincent said. "It's a very sad situation. I feel very bad for baseball and for Bud."

Selig said he will appoint his representative within a few days. Former Atlanta Braves and Washington Nationals chief executive Stan Kasten is a possible candidate, the person familiar with Selig's thinking said. Reached by telephone, Kasten declined comment.

MLB Executive Vice Presi-

dent John McHale Jr. is another possibility as is Corey Busch, the baseball team executive said. Busch, a former San Francisco Giants executive vice president under Bob Lurie, helped negotiate the McCourts' acquisition of the Dodgers.

In December, Superior Court Judge Scott Gordon in Los Angeles invalidated a March 2004 postnuptial agreement giving Frank McCourt sole ownership of the team, allowing Jamie to seek one half of the franchise.

Selig's move came after The Los Angeles Times reported this week that Frank McCourt had arranged a \$30 million loan from Fox, the team's television partner. Selig has not approved a \$200 million loan from Fox to the club, which was first proposed by the Dodgers last summer, and the Times said the money was needed to make payroll.

The team has been criticized for its poor security since Giants fan Bryan Stow was beaten as he left Dodger Stadium following the season opener. Stow remains in a medically induced coma.

Entering Wednesday, the Dodgers had averaged 39,205 fans per game, down 11 percent from their average last season.

Masterson wins duel as Indians beat Royals



KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP)—

The Cleveland Indians, after being stymied for five innings by Kansas City pitcher Luke Hochevar, rallied to beat the Royals 7-5 on Wednesday and open a two-game lead atop the American League Central division.

Hochevar (2-2) retired the first 15 batters, running his string over two starts to 31 straight. But the Indians sent nine men to the plate during a four-run sixth inning.

Indians starter Justin Masterson (4-0) shut down the Royals after allowing two runs in the first.

Melky Cabrera's RBI double in the ninth off Tony Sipp ended a string of 9 1-3 scoreless innings for the Cleveland bullpen and Jeff Francoeur followed with a two-run homer to make in interesting, but Chris Perez came in to get the last out and earn his sixth save in six opportunities.

Angels 4, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Texas, Jered Weaver became the major league's first five-game winner, striking out eight to lead Los Angeles over Texas.

It was the fifth career complete game for Weaver (5-0), who lowered his ERA to 1.23. He issued no walks while throwing 80 of his 119 pitches for strikes.

Howie Kendrick and Vernon Wells homered for Los Angeles. Jeff Mathis drove in a run on a suicide squeeze and also scored.

Yankees 6, Blue Jays 2

In Toronto, New York's Bartolo Colon earned his first win in two years in the victory over Toronto.

Colon (1-1) allowed two runs in 6 2-3 innings to win for the first time since 2009, having made his most recent start in that same year. The 2005 AL Cy Young Award winner struck out seven and walked two.

Curtis Granderson homered for New York, which remains the only team without consecutive losses this season.

Rays 4, White Sox 1

In St. Petersburg, Tampa Bay made it eight wins from nine games by downing Chicago.

Rays starter Wade Davis (2-2) pitched seven solid innings, giving up only one run.

John Jaso put Tampa Bay ahead 2-0 with a two-run shot off Phil Humber (1-2) in the second.

Tampa Bay became just the second team since 1900—joining the 1991 Seattle Mariners—to reach .500 in April after starting the season with a six-game losing streak.

Red Sox 5, Athletics 3

In Oakland, Boston finally got its first road win of the season after a franchise-worst seven straight losses, beating Oakland.

Kevin Youkilis and Jed Lowrie homered off the previously untouchable A's pitcher Gio Gonzalez (2-1), who gave up

eight hits in six innings.

Boston starter Clay Buchholz (1-2) allowed a leadoff home run to Coco Crisp but nothing else in 5 1-3 innings.

Tigers 3, Mariners 2

In Seattle, Rick Porcello conceded only one run in 6 2-3 innings to steer Detroit to a tight win over Seattle.

Porcello (1-2) ran into trouble in the seventh, yielding his first walk of the game along with two wild pitches.

Tigers closer Jose Valverde yielded a leadoff home run to Adam Kennedy before finishing for his fifth save of the season.

Orioles 5, Twins 4

In Baltimore, Matt Wieters and Vladimir Guerrero homered in Baltimore's win over Minnesota.

Adam Jones drove in two runs for the Orioles, who led 5-1 after three innings; an almost insurmountable lead against a team that ranks last in the majors in runs. Minnesota is the only club in baseball that has not yet scored more than five runs in a game this season.

Baltimore rookie Zach Britton (3-1) gave up five hits in six innings. Kevin Gregg worked a perfect ninth for his second save.

Rockies 10, Giants 2

In Denver, Jorge De La Rosa overcame a shaky start to pitch seven sharp innings and guide the Colorado Rockies to a win

over the San Francisco Giants, extending their early lead in the National League West division.

De La Rosa (3-0) gave up just four hits.

Phillies 4, Brewers 3

In Philadelphia, Shane Victorino hit a tiebreaking homer in the eighth inning to lift Philadelphia over Milwaukee.

The Brewers took a 3-0 lead but Placido Polanco hit a three-run shot to tie it in the sixth. Victorino then hit a long drive to off Brandon Kintzler (1-1) to put the Phillies up 4-3.

Marlins 6, Pirates 0

In Miami, Chris Coghlan drove in three runs, two of them on an infield single, as Florida shut down Pittsburgh and won its fifth game from six.

Emilio Bonifacio had two hits and scored from second on Coghlan's slow roller in a four-run Florida second inning.

Marlins starter Ricky Nolasco (2-0) struck out eight in seven innings, walking only one and throwing 66 of his 96 pitches for strikes.

Dodgers 6, Braves 1

In Los Angeles, the home team capped a tumultuous day with victory over Atlanta.

Major League Baseball announced earlier Wednesday that it was assuming control of the Dodgers, a team increasingly paralyzed by its owners' bitter

divorce. An MLB representative will oversee all aspects of the business and the day-to-day operations of the club.

Nationals 8, Cardinals 6, 1st Game Cardinals 5, Nationals 3, 2nd Game

In St. Louis, Washington piled on six runs in the third inning to set up victory over St. Louis in the opening game of a doubleheader.

Layne Nix homered and drove in two runs for the Nationals.

In the second game, Lance Berkman had three hits and two RBIs to steer St. Louis to victory and end the Nationals' four-game streak.

Jaime Garcia (3-0) allowed one earned run in five-plus innings, the bullpen combined to allow only one hit from thereon, and Rasmus got his fourth RBI of the day.

Diamondbacks 3, Reds 1

In Cincinnati, Ian Kennedy overcame a spill on the mound, guiding Arizona to victory over Cincinnati for its third consecutive win.

Kennedy (2-1) got his right leg knocked out from under him by a comeback grounder, but stayed in the game. He also had a run-scoring groundout off Bronson Arroyo (2-2), who got little help from a struggling offense.

The Reds have lost six of seven.

Cubs 2, Padres 1, 11 innings, Game 1 Padres 5, Cubs 4, Game 2

In Chicago, Reed Johnson lined a pitch into the left-field bleachers in the 11th inning to give Chicago a win over San Diego in the opening game of a doubleheader.

Johnson's first homer of the season came off Luke Gregerson (0-1), the fifth Padres pitcher.

Matt Garza struck out nine in six shutout innings for the Cubs. He also scored in the third inning.

In the second game, Ryan Ludwick had three hits, including a two-run shot as one of the Padres' three home runs. Cameron Maybin and Chris Denorfia also homered off Cubs starter James Russell (1-3).

Astros 4, Mets 3

In New York, the hosts fell to their worst home start ever after losing to Houston.

New York fell to 1-8 at Citi Field. It had a 1-7 start at the Polo Grounds during its 1962 inaugural season before winning its next home game.

The Mets' seventh straight home loss dropped them to 5-13 overall, their worst start since going 3-15 in 1964, according to STATS LLC.

Hunter Pence hit a blistering go-ahead home run in the eighth inning and Houston used two good fielding plays late to secure the victory. Astros reliever Jose Valdez made a sweeping tag at home to end the Mets' eighth-inning comeback. In the ninth, Josh Thole popped up a bunt and closer Brandon Lyon threw to first for the double play.

Mets knuckleballer R.A. Dickey (1-3) got the loss.

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Pacquiao sharp in 11 rounds of sparring

By **RONNIE NATHANIELSZ**
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



MANILA, Philippines—Pound-for-pound king Manny Pacquiao sparred 11 rounds yesterday with four different opponents at the Wild Card Gym in Hollywood and looked sharper than ever.

Trainer Freddie Roach supervised the sparring session after returning from England, where he worked the corner of Amir Khan, who retained his WBA light welterweight title with a sixth round TKO over Paul McCloskey last Saturday.

Strength and conditioning coach Alex Ariza told the *Inquirer* that Roach “got right into it and was very pleased” with what he saw.

Pacquiao sparred three



Manny Pacquiao stretches before his sparring matches at the Wild Card Gym in Hollywood, California.

rounds with Karim Mayfield, four with Shawn Porter and two each with longtime sparring partners Raymund Beltran and David Rodela.

Ariza said “Manny looked

very sharp and right after he did 11 rounds he wanted me to get ready for his strength training.”

Pacquiao is preparing for his showdown with former three-time world champion Shane

Mosley at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas on May 7.

Top Rank promoter Bob Arum who watched Manny’s workout along with Hall of Fame matchmaker Bruce

Tramplero said “Manny looked tremendous.”

Arum also disclosed that he had discussed what he described as “absolutely phenomenal” endorsement deals with Pacquiao that were going to be “very lucrative because he is really admired all over the world.”

Arum said one of the deals would be probably bigger than former heavyweight champion

George Foreman’s multimillion dollar grill.

He said under one agreement, Pacquiao’s picture will be on “every bag sold all over the world that contains vegetables.”

Arum also disclosed that another deal would have Pacquiao as one of the “celebrity endorsers of the Hewlett Packard iPad, which will also be all over the world.”

Top Pool Bar holds 8-ball tourneys



Top Pool Bar will be holding tournaments three times a week.

The Garapan bar will start with the 8-Ball Pool Tour every Monday and this event is open only to pros. Only the first 16 players to register will compete in the contest, which will start at 7pm. Entrance fee is only \$15 and the first placer will receive \$110. The runner-up will get \$80, while the third finisher will take home \$50.

Then every Wednesday,

Top Pool will have a competition for semi pro. Registration fee is only \$10 with the Top 3 placers getting \$80, \$50, and \$30.

For amateur cue artists, they can join the competition every Sunday. Entrance fee is only \$5 and the first and second placers will pocket \$50 and \$30, respectively. The third finisher will receive a shirt.

Rules in every division will be discussed before each game.

For more information, contact Zheng at 287-7676. *(Saipan Tribune)*

AKIMARU

From Page 32

swimmer to break a record in last weekend’s competition. Besides the 50m backstroke, the SSC bet also joined five other events.

In the 100m freestyle race, Akimaru timed in at 1:11.24, the sixth fastest among 22 swimmers who completed the event. Tsunami Saipan’s Kai-sei Toda posted the best time

in the 100m freestyle with his 1:07.55, followed by teammates Kaito Yanai (1:08.97) and Marvin Lee (1:09.05). Siblings and SSC swimmers Andrew and Grace Kimball had the fourth and fifth best times at 1:09.41 and 1:10.06, respectively.

In the 50m breaststroke, Akimaru submitted the second best time at 41.63 seconds. Tsunami Saipan’s Angel Marie Tan was the fastest at 39.06 seconds, while SSC’s Keanna Villago-

mez (44.34 seconds) and Grace Kimball (44.46 seconds), and Tsunami Saipan’s Daima Rivera (46.12 seconds) rounded out the Top 5.

In the 200m individually medley, Akimaru was ranked first with his 2:57.04. Lukas Kang came in next with his 3:04.92, followed by Ryosei Toda (3:10.09), Ryuto Yanai (3:21.93), and Yuuki Nishida (3:31.46).

The SSC bet’s fifth event was the 50m butterfly and he

recorded the second fastest time at 35.10 seconds behind Kai Staal’s new personal best of 27.87 seconds. Completing the Top 5 best times were Grace Kimball (35.17 seconds), Villagomez (35.88 seconds), and Lee (36.14 seconds).

In the 200m IM, Akimaru timed in at 2:32.01, the second best in the event. Chentsova had the fastest time in the 200m IM with her 2:21.96, while Suzuki recorded the third best at 3:11.95.

DRAGONS

From Page 32

tend the awards presentation, but was unable to make it, so RBC head coach Joe Diaz spoke on her behalf.

“I hope that everyone enjoyed their visit here and had fun in the competition. I want to send both Guam clubs a much gracious thanks for coming over. We love going to your events and really appreciate that you guys answered our call. Ms. Ogunmoro also wanted me to stress the importance of maintaining strong relationships with our neighbor-

ing islands,” he said.

Diaz also thanked Secretary Faisao for the donation and promised that RBC will put it to good use. He also extended RBC’s gratitude to Bill Limes, James Lee, and sponsors Docomo Pacific and Bank of Guam.

“Thank you also to the Basketball Association of the NMI referees for donating their time, the Hoopaholics basketball team and all other RBC members and volunteers who helped out during the event,” he added.

RBC has plans for another more creative fundraiser event in the coming months as they prepare to participate in Guam’s

Summer Jam Basketball Tournament. More details will be released upon confirmation. For more RBC information, contact Coach Diaz at 483-1791.

U15 Finals

Dragons 48 – Kim 13, F Tomy 9, Silva 8, Pak 6, Sadhwani 5, Aguon 2, Carlos 2, Silik 1.

670 Rollers 37 – Lansang 9, Mizer 8, Ano 6, Robasto 5, DL Guerrero 4, Kwon 3, Yap 2

Scoring by quarters: 16-9, 32-13, 40-22, 48-3.

U17 Finals

Dragons 51 – Tomy 22,

Souluk 9, Justice 7, Meimaw 5, Jordan 3, Leo 2, Kurtis 2, Felix 1.

Falcons 39 – Chargualaf 10, Blas 9, Marciano 9, Dagsaan 5, Calalang 4, Java 2.

Scoring by quarters: 10-7, 24-19, 37-27, 51-39.

U20 Finals

Dragons 70 – Apilado 25, Don 9, Souluk 8, Dior 6, Jayne 6, W Tomy 6, George 2, Jeremiah 1.

Saints 51 – Aughenbaugh 12, Kyoshi 12, Galarse 10, Iglesias 9, Aulerio 6, Brennan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 12-1, 32-7, 55-25, 70-51.

MUCH

From Page 32

Ronald Hermosilla, Josh Duenas, Seong Ho, Mark “The Dark” Nuique, Jay Furbs Santos, and Art of War 5 bronze winner Tavita Leuta, Marianas Elite’s Derrick Rangamar, and independents Shane Aguon, Regino Mundo, Greg Camacho, Ricky Marciano, Tim Borja, Gary Garrido, Ben Quinata, Tory Mayberry, Lengapi Marciano, A.J. Aguon, Lloyd Cubacub, Derrick Rangamar, Eugene Wong, and Andrew Sablan are also entered in the division.

Last year’s welterweight silver and lightweight gold medalist Fasi “Quickdraw” Jesse along with Trench Tech teammates Giovanni “Palaxi” Sablan, Rey Kim, Jay Lee, Vince

of Art of War 5 lightweight silver medalist Shane “Pikaboo” Alvarez as well as Trench Tech stable mates Chris Laayug, Josh Duenas, and Vince Masga.

Team Chaos’ Joy Fred, Marianas Elite’s Maitai Charley and independent lightweights Regino Mundo, Greg Camacho, Ricky Marciano, Tim Borja, Gary Garrido, Ben Quinata, Tory Mayberry, Lengapi Marciano, A.J. Aguon, Lloyd Cubacub, Derrick Rangamar, Eugene Wong, and Andrew Sablan are also entered in the division.

Last year’s welterweight silver and lightweight gold medalist Fasi “Quickdraw” Jesse along with Trench Tech teammates Giovanni “Palaxi” Sablan, Rey Kim, Jay Lee, Vince

Masga, and Sixtus Aquino will compete as welterweights with Art of War 4 gold medalist Ryan Ada and independents Zack Reyes and Kimo Lizama.

Trench Tech’s Keli Manglona, Rey Kim, Ning “Bo Slice” Cepeda, and Ron Chisato; Marianas Elite’s Lionel Borja, and independents Robert “Pitbull” Palacios, Roman Seman, Ryan Bustamante, and Rusty Ada will compete for a spot on the middleweight podium.

Aside from independent Peter Mendiola, Jacob Haught, Rey Kim, Keli Manglona, Ning Cepeda, Wan Lee, Ken Tanzawa, Darrel Salas, and Ron Chisato make up the all Trench Tech light heavyweight class.

Last year’s gold medalist

Marianas Elite’s Kelvin “The Big Hit” Fital has his sights set on back to back gold, but will have to go through Trench Tech’s Ton “SHÑAA” Sablan, Jacob Haught, Mylo “Alabama” Lassiter, Joe Ocampo, Jack Kiyosho, Slade “The Rage” Adelbai, and Mikiotti Evangelista, with Shawn Marciano, Edward Chargualaf, John Aguon Jr., Eric Tedtaotao, Francis Mendiola, Franklin Faisao, and Nate Untalan.

An awards ceremony will be held at the Trench Tech Gym immediately following the event. All competitors will receive a free gold-colored Konflikt T-shirt upon registration.

For more information, contact Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez at 483-4MMA (4662).

BAEK

From Page 32

ther’s are tied for second with their similar 2-2-1 cards, followed by Korean Football Association (2-1-1), Wild Bills (1-0-4) and Baek Du San (1-0-4).

MP United A and Inter Godfather’s forced a deadlock for the second spot after a 3-3 draw in their Sunday’s game.

MP United A drew one goal each from Dae Min Jeon, Mickey Kim, and Nick Swaim, while Masatoshi Otsuka, Yosh Gabaldon, and Darin Keizer scored for Inter Godfather’s. Though they are tied in the win-draw-loss record, MP United has more goals than Inter Godfather’s with 16 against the latter’s 12.

In Division B, Sky FC and Matansa FC are on top with their identical 4-0-1 slates,

followed by MP United B (3-1-2), Tan Holdings (3-0-2), Shirley’s FC (0-2-3), and Independents (0-1-5).

Sky FC gained its fourth straight win after shutting out Tan Holdings FC, 2-0.

Sung Ho Kang logged the twin goals for SKY FC, which has scored 24 goals in five games and has given up only three.

Matansa has earned 21 and allowed six, while MP United B has posted 12 and given up nine. Tan Holdings FC and Shirley’s FC have seven goals apiece, while IFC has scored only five and given up 35.

Games in the men’s league will continue this Sunday with Sky FC taking on Matansa in the first game at 12pm. In Division A, Baek Du San will meet MP United at 2pm, while KFAS will face Wild Bill’s at 4pm.



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MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	10	6	.625	—
Tampa Bay	9	9	.500	2
Baltimore	8	9	.471	2 1/2
Toronto	8	10	.444	3
Boston	6	11	.353	4 1/2

Central Division

Cleveland	13	5	.722	—
Kansas City	11	7	.611	2
Detroit	9	10	.474	4 1/2
Chicago	7	11	.389	6
Minnesota	6	12	.333	7

West Division

Los Angeles	12	6	.667	—
Texas	11	7	.611	1
Oakland	9	9	.500	3
Seattle	6	13	.316	6 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	11	6	.647	—
Florida	10	6	.625	1/2
Washington	9	8	.529	2
Atlanta	8	11	.421	4
New York	5	13	.278	6 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	9	9	.500	—
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West Division

Colorado	13	5	.722	—
San Francisco	10	8	.556	3
Arizona	8	8	.500	4
Los Angeles	9	10	.474	4 1/2
San Diego	8	10	.444	5

Yesterday's Games

Philadelphia 4, Milwaukee 3

Washington 8, St. Louis 6, 1st game

Chicago Cubs 2, San Diego 1, 11 innings, 1st game

Colorado 10, San Francisco 2

San Diego 5, Chicago Cubs 4, 2nd game

Arizona 3, Cincinnati 1

Houston 4, N.Y. Mets 3

Florida 6, Pittsburgh 0

St. Louis 5, Washington 3, 2nd game

L.A. Dodgers 6, Atlanta 1

Boston 5, Oakland 3

Detroit 3, Seattle 2

Tampa Bay 4, Chicago White Sox 1

Baltimore 5, Minnesota 4

N.Y. Yankees 6, Toronto 2

L.A. Angels 4, Texas 1

Cleveland 7, Kansas City 5

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Retardo, Ortiz rule Fil-Taga April Ace

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



William Retardo and Nazareno Ortiz claimed the Fil-Taga April Ace titles after topping the monthly tournament at the Marianas County Club last Sunday.

Retardo carded a net 69 to beat 11 other Fil-Taga members in Division A. The 9-handicapper shot a 40 on the front nine and improved his game on the back with a 38 for a gross 78 and a one-stroke win over Rick Kautz. Retardo's gross score was the lowest in his field and he was the lone player in the group to post a net score in the 60s.

Kautz had a gross 79 and deducting his 9 handicap, he ended up with a net 70. He started strong with a 38 in the first nine holes, but struggled a bit in the last nine with his 41.

Completing the Top 3 was Joe Miranda, a 10-handicapper, and fired a net 72. Like Kautz, Miranda also got off to a good start with his 37 on the front nine, but fumbled on the back with a 45 for a gross 82.

Other Fil-Taga members who



Retardo

joined Division A's April Ace tournament with their net scores in parenthesis were Mando Guban (73), Nestor Siruelo (74), Jacinto Ramones (76), Dennis Sebastian (76), Richard Meimban (77), Lito Mendoza (78), Matutino Adony (79), Larry Pascual (83), and Rene Batallones (88).

In Division B, Ortiz was also the lone golfer in his field to post a net in the 60s with his 66. The 19-handicapper tallied a gross 85 built on a 45 and 37 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a four-shot lead over runner-up Dandito Breboneria.

Breboneria logged a net 70 after deducting his 20 handicap from his gross score of 90. He had a 46 in the first nine holes



Ortiz

and recorded a 44 in the last nine. Rounding out the Top 3 were Jason Gatdula and Larry Roberts, who nailed identical net scores of 71. Gatdula drilled a gross 91 and minus his 20 handicap, he earned a net 71. Roberts carded a gross 102 and held a 32 handicap to share third place with Gatdula.

Other Division B participants with their net scores in parenthesis were Magin Ogarto (72), James Mitchell (76), Gary Orpiano (76), Randy Tudela (76), Ernie Lopez (77), Sandy Palon (78), Ted Malaran (80), Mike Cruz (81), Joseph Fernandez (81), Henry Cruz (86), Richard Atalig (89), and Michael Cruz (116).

3 teams unbeaten in MHS Rocball League

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

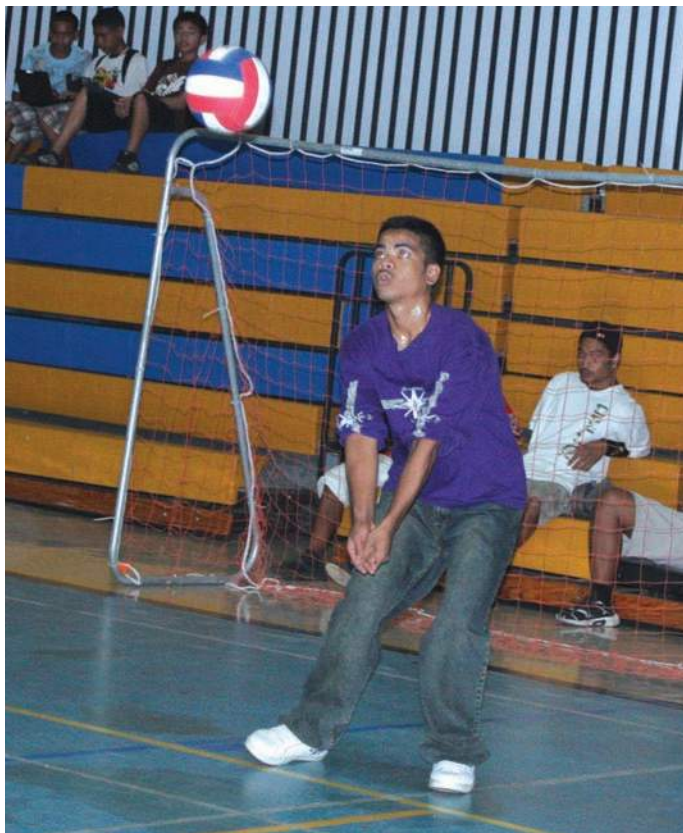


Three teams have yet to drop a game in the ongoing Marianas High School Rocball League being played at the MHS Gymnasium.

The Kingz is undefeated in three games to lead the league, while Rockafella and You Got Serve hold similar 2-0 cards to keep pace with the former. Other teams competing in the league are Home Town Kids (2-1), Alpha Q (2-1), Geek (1-1), Teachers (1-1), Leche Dude (1-2), Fil-Aces (1-2), G-6 (0-2), High Five (0-2), and Rockstars (0-2).

In its first three wins, the Kingz scored the most xunk with three and had 11 aces (second best to You Got Serve. A xunk is a serve that lands on a defensive/receiving team's court untouched. The team that scores a xunk has the option of adding two points to its scores or subtracting two points from its opponent's scores.

In the aces department, You Got Serve recorded 12 aces in its first two games to top the league and also has the most goals with four. Alpha Q and Leche Dude tallied 10 aces each. An ace is a serve that is grounded by a player on the defensive/receiving team before a second player touches the ball. A goal is scored when the offensive team hits the ball and it went in to a soccer goal



A Rocball player returns from the backline during the last fall league at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. Rocball action continues at the Dolphins court with 12 teams competing in the MHS league.

at the backline.

In the kees department, the Teacher currently leads the league with six, followed by Rockstars with five. Alpha Q, HTK, and the Kingz are tied for third with four kees apiece. A kee is scored if a team hits from the backcourt or behind the 10-foot frontline.

In the individual scoring, Justin Pardierna of You Got Serve is leading the league with 19 points off eight aces and one xunk scored so far. The Kingz's

Ben Olopai is at second with 13 off four aces, two kees, and one goal, while the Teachers' Nick Gross has gained 11 points after making two aces, two kees, and one goal.

So far, no player has scored a jam, which is made when a frontline player on the receiving team smacks down and grounds a served ball on the service team's court. A player to make at least one jam, ace, xunk, goal, and kee will get the "Masters Blaster" award.

MGD rallies past Hoopaholics in OT; Cargo Express wins

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Pacific Trading-MGD rallied to beat VFW Post 3457-Joe's Bar Hoopaholics in overtime, 60-56, as the Miller Lite Invitational Basketball League continued over the weekend at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Both MGD and Hoopaholics started the match with just seven players and the latter built an early 13-7 lead after the opening period.

MGD's Melvin Capalad then scored 13 markers in the second quarter as both squads headed into the break even at 25-all.

Hoop's Dave Sablan delivered 10 points in the third quarter to help his team reclaim the lead, 41-37, heading into the final canto.

MGD's Bon Tamayo nailed two 3-pointers for eight points at crunch time, while Capalad hit the game-tying shot in the final minute.

Both teams had their chances to win the game in regulation, but field goals were hard to come by down the stretch.

MGD's Jerome Reyes stepped up big in overtime with four points and Tamayo hit a free throw in the end to keep the game out of Hoops' reach.

Hoops' Sablan led all scorers with 20 points, but was held to just four points in the last 15 minutes of the game. MGD's Capalad led his squad with 17 points.

Cargo Express 72, Mobil 69

In Sunday's opener, Cargo Express-Sea Bridge outlasted Mobil, 72-69.

Cargo Express' Lerio Pagarao caught fire early with 10 points in the opening 10 minutes to help build an early 17-15 lead against Mobil.

Pagarao added 12 more in the second quarter as his team pulled ahead, 39-31, at the half.

Mobil's Jorge De Guzman provided the bulk of his team's offense with 14 points in the first frame.

Both teams made defensive adjustments after the break, but Cargo Express still maintained a 51-45 advantage heading into the fourth quarter.

Mobil's Gil Gapor and Angelo Fernando tallied eight points apiece in the clutch, but Cargo Express held it together in the end.

Pagarao finished with a game-high 32 markers to tie Mobil's De Guzman and Gapor's combined effort.

Archers 70, Armatech 68

On Saturday, Archers' Gilbert

Miranda hit clutch shots in the payoff period to help his team edge Armatech, 70-68.

Armatech managed an early 14-13 lead in the opening quarter thanks to a late five-point string by Ivan Devero.

Armatech's Elmer Esdreton and J.R. Ngeskebei tallied seven points apiece in the second quarter to maintain a slim 36-35 edge at the half.

Esdreton added 10 more points in the third to help his team build a two-possession lead, 56-52, with 10 minutes to go, but Archers woke up and took control of the game at crunchtime.

Archers' Miranda then made a couple of clutch 3-pointers in the fourth as his teammates pulled off the comeback and held Armatech to just 12 points in the period.

Miranda finished with a team-high 21 points, while Esdreton turned in 23 on the short end.

Soul Jazz 93, Fixers 77

Soul Jazz blew out Ebisuya Fixers, 93-77, in Saturday's second game.

Fixers worked the ball around well in the first quarter against Soul Jazz and built an early 20-15 margin.

Soul Jazz then battled back and pulled within one, 38-39, at the half. Soul Jazz's Freddie Pelisamen delivered 12 points in the second quarter.

Soul Jazz's offense turned it up a notch in the third quarter and shot ahead, 71-58.

Pelisamen added 10 markers in the third, while teammate Perry Inos provided 11 points in support.

The Fixers ran out of gas in the final period, as Soul Jazz ran away and never looked back.

Pelisamen finished with 33 points, while Fixers' Jawn Joyner scored 24 in the loss.

Inchcape 82, Brabu 70

On Friday, Inchcape brushed off Brabu Pharmacy, 82-70, in the first game. Inchcape got to work early and amassed a 32-12 lead in the first quarter.

Kae Bernardo and Jun Tabora combined for 21 points for Inchcape in the period.

Brabu never postured a comeback as Inchcape maintained its double-digit margin for the remainder of the contest.

Inchcape's Bernardo and Tabora combined for 50 markers, while Brabu's Top 3 came up with only 31 points altogether.

Blue Hauz 54, Cell-Pro 42

Blue Hauz defeated Cell-Pro, 54-42, in Friday's nightcap.

Blue Hauz managed an 8-2 lead as both teams started slow.

Action picked up a little in the second quarter, but Blue Hauz still maintained a healthy 23-15 margin at the break.

Blue Hauz then extended its lead into double-digits, 39-29, heading into the last quarter, where both teams essentially traded baskets until the final bell.

Cell Pro's Joe Villacrusis tallied a game high 18 points, but did not receive much support from his teammates.

SUNDAY First Game

Cargo Express-Sea Bridge 72 – Pagarao 32, Lerio 20, Itaas 14, Fitial 2, Jung 2.

Mobil 69 – De Guzman 16, Gapor 16, Navarro 9, Moises 8, Fernando 8, Galzote 7, Banata-sa 2, Wenceslao 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-15, 39-31, 51-45, 72-69.

Second Game

PTC MGD – Capalad 17, Tamayo 14, Reyes 8, Tagle 6, Babauta 5, Tudela 4, Lauron 3, Garon 2, Dayrit 1.

VFW Hoopaholics 56 – Sablan 20, Villacrusis 10, Ulloa 7, Manibusan 6, Cabre-ra 5, Mendez 4, Tomokane 2.

Scoring by quarters: 7-13, 25-25, 37-41, 51-51, 60-56, OT.

SATURDAY First Game

Lion's Club Archers 70 – Miranda 21, Yabut 18, Abuy 12, Sharry 12, David 7.

Armatech 68 – Esdreton 23, Devero 16, Berline 8, Ngeskebei 7, Moreno 6, Galulu 3, Montano 2, Rebuyon 2.

Scoring by quarters: 32-12, 43-32, 67-49, 86-70.

13-14, 35-36, 52-56, 70-68.

FRIDAY First Game

Inchcape 86 – Bernardo 28, Tabora 22, Tobias 13, Demapan 12, Mallari 4, Pantaleon 3, Marchadesch 2, Ortega 2.

Brabu Pharmacy 70 – Ito 11, Brillo 10, Cortez 10, Detigra 8, Montes 8, Valiente 8, Cal 6, Ocampo 6, J. Camacho 5.

Scoring by quarters: 32-12, 43-32, 67-49, 86-70.

Second Game

Blue Hauz 54 – Talaria 13, Santos 10, Libuw 8, Z. Diaz 6, B. Camacho 6, Tumaquip 6, Lazona 2, Tenorio 2, Fernandez 1.

Cell-Pro 42 – Villacrusis 18, Tudela 6, Dulfo 4, Lose 4, Ajoste 2, Barroso 2, Mongami 2, Herrera 1.

Scoring by quarters: 8-2, 23-15, 39-29, 54-42.



Lakers grind past Hornets, even playoff series
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Saipan Tribune Sports

Retardo, Ortiz rule Fil-Taga April Ace
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Akimaru shatters 50m backstroke mark

Baek Du San breaks into win column

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Baek Du San finally made it to the win column in Division A of the NMIFA Men's Invitational Football League after eking out a 2-1 win over Wild Bill's last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Baek Du San canned the two goals in the first half to end its four-game losing skid and bring its goal total to eight so far this season. The scores

sheet for the Wild Bill's-Baek Du San tiff was not released so names of players who scored in the weekend match were unavailable at press time.

Wild Bill's dropped its fourth straight match after winning its debut this season and now shares the bottom of the team standings in the six-squad field with Baek Du San.

Paire leads the league with its 3-1-0 win-draw-loss record. MP United A and Inter Godfa-

See BAEK on Page 30



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Wild Bill's, left, and Baek Dun San players nudge each other as they battle for the ball during their game in Division A of the NMIFA men's league last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru, seen here competing in the 50m butterfly swim during last Saturday's All Island Invitational 3 at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool, broke the 31-year record in the 50m backstroke in the boys 9 to 10 age group.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru crushed the 31-year record in the 50m backstroke in the boys 9 to 10 age group during last Saturday's All Island Invitational 3 at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

The 10-year-old swimmer submitted 39.05 seconds in the 50m backstroke race to eclipse the 39.50 seconds Keith Ludwick recorded on March 28, 1980. Ludwick's mark is the oldest in the 9 to 10 age group and with Akimaru shattering it the former has only one record left in the division.

Ludwick holds the 100m backstroke record at 1:26.08 logged on Oct. 5, 1980. Akimaru and Ludwick are in the company of Kaitao Hanai and Kensuke Kimura, who own 10 and two records in the 9 to 10 age group, respectively.

Akimaru was the lone SSC
See AKIMARU on Page 30



Dragons sweep Easter cage tourney

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Guam's Dragons Basketball Club swept all four divisions of the 2nd Annual Docomo Easter Friendship Invitational Basketball Tournament that took place over spring break at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

A total of 16 teams competed in four divisions in the competition organized by the Rollers Basketball Club and Unified Basketball Association.

On Wednesday, U12 Dragons defeated the Rollers, 52-31; U15 Dragons defeated 670 Rollers, 48-37; and U20 Dragons drubbed the Saints, 70-51, before the U17 Dragons upset Guam's Mong Mong Toto Maite Falcons, 51-39, yesterday morning to complete the sweep.

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin Faiso, Division of Youth Services Community Outreach



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

Guam Dragons' Jordan George sprints around Mong Mong Toto Maite Falcons' center Raymark Marciano in yesterday's U17 finals that wrapped up the 2nd Annual Docomo Friendship Invitational Basketball Tournament at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

coordinator Bill Limes, and UBA president James Lee were on hand after yesterday's U17 finals to congratulate and thank the visitors and all participants.

Faiso also stated that the DCCA-DYS plans on donating \$1,000 to the RBC for next year's March Madness Basketball Invitational Tournament on Guam.

The trio then presented awards to the champions and runner-ups of all divisions.

Most valuable player medals were also issued to U12 Dragons' Austin Blaz, U15 Dragons' Brian Kim, U17 Dragons' Gino Soulik and U20 Dragons' Niel Apilado.

Five-year-old David George of the U12 Dragons and 670 Rollers' Keolani Rios were also awarded prizes for being the youngest participant and lone female player of the tourney, respectively.

Along with Faiso, House Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogu-

See DRAGONS on Page 30

Much bigger turnout for Art of War 6

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



A total of 79 competitors are expected to join in Trench Tech's Art of War 6 Grappling and Submission Challenge set for from 9am to 4pm tomorrow at the Trench Tech Gym in San Antonio.

Participating mixed martial arts practitioners will compete in seven different weight classes.

This year's event is expected to have over twice as many competitors than Art of War 5 and admission costs only \$5.

Some competitors are entered in multiple weight divisions.

The competing classes include bantamweight (100-135 lbs.); featherweight (136-145

lbs.); lightweight (146-155 lbs.); welterweight (156-170 lbs.); middleweight (171-185 lbs.); light heavyweight (186-205 lbs.); and heavyweight (206-265 lbs.)

Art of War 5 gold medalist Shane Aguon of Guam, Trench Tech fighters Joe Lee, Alvin Mettao, Ace Lee, Josh Tured, and Tavita Leuta, Predator Combat Team's Jay Muna, Team Haga's Jordan Ogo, and independent fighters Tex Aguon, Mathew Maeda, Don Arceo, and Lenny "Slim" Sablan make up this year's bantamweight field. This time around Aguon will have to go up against twice as many competitors.

Last year's featherweight runner-up out of Trench Tech, Alverick "Pretty Boy" Alvarez, along with brother and teammate Shane and colleagues

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